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## Local Chiefs on Opioids, Homeless



**PAGE: 4**

Two years ago four local police chiefs participated in a summit on the opioid crisis and homelessness on the Paying Attention Podcast with Valley Patriot Publisher Tom Duggan. Last month they reconvened to update the public on the progress (or lack of progress) being made combatting opioid abuse, homelessness, and the residual crimes that come from both. Above: Methuen Police Chief Joe Solomon, Haverhill Chief Alan DeNaro, Boxford Chief Jim Riter, and North Andover Chief Charles Gray on The Paying Attention Podcast.

### INDEX



**Al Kaprielian**  
Page 5



**IN YOUR CORNER**  
Senator  
DIZOGLIO  
**PAGE 16**

Vets.....	1,
Editorial-OpEd.....	2
State.....	2, 10, 16
Lawrence.....	2, 5, 10, 13
Methuen.....	2, 4-7, 10, 11, 13, 16
North Andover.....	4, 13
Haverhill/Boxford.....	4
Paying Attention .....	5
Lowell.....	7
Notebook.....	8-9
Dracut.....	11
Health/Medical.....	20
Teen Talk.....	21
TV Talk.....	22
Religion.....	23
Real Estate.....	24
Books.....	25



**JOEL'S FOOD CORNER**  
Joel Faretra  
**PAGE 11**



**TV TALK**  
w. Bill  
Cushing  
**PAGE 22**



**Brian Genest**  
Dracut  
**PAGE 11**

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## VALLEY PATRIOT OF THE MONTH

### Fr. James Broderick - 39 Bombing Missions Over Nazi Germany in a B24 Liberator

John Cuddy

VALLEY PATRIOT HERO REPORTER

Originally hailing from Gloucester, Massachusetts, Fr. James Broderick is now a Catholic priest living in retirement at the Archdiocese of Boston's Regina Cleri Home for Retired Priests. After graduating from Saint Ann's High in Gloucester, with the Class of 1943, he joined the US Army Air Corp. Father Broderick completed his pre-deployment

training in Biloxi, Mississippi and Sioux City Iowa, completing flight training and practice bombing runs across the Nevada desert before leaving for Europe.

Father Broderick served in the European Theater of Operations, reaching the rank of Master Sergeant before the war ended, and before he could even legally drink a beer. Fr. James "Jim" Broderick was assigned to the crew of a US Army Air Corp's B24-H Liberator as a bombardier, flying during the air campaign

against the Germans during the Second World War. During the war, US Army Air Corp crews, along with RAF and Free French Air Crews, bombed Germany around the clock. While serving with the 445th Heavy Bombardment Group as part of a 10-man B24-H Liberator crew, he flew on thirty-nine bombing missions, and an additional twenty auxiliary missions. This was the same unit that Hollywood actor James "Jimmy" Stewart served in.

During World War II, there were three heavy bombers being flown by the US Army Air Corp, the B-17 Flying Fortress, the B-24 Liberator, and very late in the war, the B-29 Superfortress. How dangerous was bombing the Germans during World War II? On September 27, 1944, Fr. Broderick's unit was on a bombing mission over Germany. The flight of thirty-five bombers was jumped by over one hundred and fifty German fighters. In the ensuing fight, twenty-nine German fighters and twenty-five American bombers were shot down. Only four of the thirty-five American planes made it back to their original base. The next day, only one was fit to fly! For the Unit's service during World War II, the airmen of the 445th received the Distinguished Unit Citation.

After defeating the Germans and saving the world in 1945, Master Sgt. Broderick became one of the millions of American Veterans who were being demobilized after their service to our nation during World War II and returned to civilian life. Using his GI Bill benefits, he attended and graduated from Dartmouth College in



Hanover, NH. After college, he worked as a banker for Old Colony Trust, reaching the rank of Junior Vice President. During our conversation, Fr. Broderick told me, about the Irish waitresses treating him badly during business lunches at the Durgin Park Restaurant. The poor service and rude treatment continued until a coworker told the girls that they too, were Catholics. While working as a banker, he met a young woman and became engaged to be married. During his marriage preparation, he attended Catholic Retreat, it was on this retreat at St. Joseph's Abbey in Spen-

HERO: PAGE 21

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# Incompetent, Dishonest Legislature Strikes Again

You have to hand it to the Democrat Party-controlled Massachusetts State Legislature. When it comes to stupidity, only California can beat the level of destructive incompetence displayed on Beacon Hill.

The Democrat Party controls both the house and the senate in Massachusetts. And it's those very same democrats who pretend to care about "freedom of choice" when it comes to - say - abortion.

You know, because "nobody should tell anyone what to do with her own body".

Yet, these same dishonest hacks have now banned Newports and other menthol flavored cigarettes because - get this - they really want to "protect the children."

Yet, when a woman in Massachusetts - or anyone for that matter - wants the "freedom to choose" putting menthol cigarettes into their bodies, these same "pro-choice" democrats no longer favor the "freedom to choose".

Weird huh?

This is the same legislature, by the way, that just legalized marijuana, proposing publicly funded injection cites for HEROIN, and is constantly trying to legalize other, more harmful drugs. Do they really think legalizing pot will decrease the use of pot by "the children"?

Do they really think heroin injection sites are going to decrease the use of heroin by "the children"?

Do they really believe legalizing other hard drugs will "protect the children"?

Of course, they don't.

But when it comes to menthol cigarettes? THAT's when they really care about children.

We spoke to local state representatives and senators who voted for the cigarette ban and asked about the hypocrisy.

As if they had all rehearsed it in advance, each legislator gave the same answer; they each cited some "study" that showed children who smoke cigarettes prefer flavored cigarettes.

Which brings up a logical question, if it's already illegal for kids to smoke cigarettes, do these feckless dupes in the state legislature think that banning menthol cigarettes will stop kids from smoking cigarettes altogether?

Of course, they don't. The excuses they give are lies. Remember when the legislature raised the cost of cigarette taxes by

another dollar per pack? They claimed it was to pay for former smokers who got lung diseases from smoking, and that the money would go into a special fund to pay for their healthcare.

Within less than a year, all that money collected from the new cigarette tax went into the state's general fund. You know what the legislature did with that money?

They blew it. Yeah, it's gone. To hell with kids who have lung diseases.

But, now we are supposed to believe they care about kids?

LOST REVENUE

The worst part of the menthol cigarette ban is the millions in revenue lost by small businesses in MA when their regular customers go to New Hampshire to buy menthol cigarettes, and pick up milk, bread, and other incidentals that used to be made at say - Mike's Market in North Andover, or Howe Street Superette in Methuen.

How does this help Massachusetts? It doesn't, of course, and yet, your local legislators couldn't care less.

As long as they have something to brag about at election time, to hell with the local businesses who now have to lay people off

or work more hours to make their mortgage and pay their bills.

It's obvious that most of our elected officials in Boston have no clue what the function of government is supposed to be in a free republic. While they are busy banning menthol cigarettes, more people died of opioid abuse than were killed in Vietnam or WWII. They haven't even begun to tackle that problem.

But, rest assured, come election time they will all pat themselves on the back claiming to have "protected children" by banning menthol cigarettes.

When that happens, please remember to ask them how banning menthol cigarettes while making pot and other drugs legal "helps protect the children"? When they change the subject or spout meaningless talking points, force them to answer the question.

We asked more than a dozen legislators that exact question and not one of them could answer it in any meaningful way.

They should all be ashamed of themselves. And you should be telling them that when they knock on your door looking for a vote come November. ♦

## Young Business Owner in Lawrence Giving Back to the Community

Tomas G Michel  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

On its 6th year anniversary, Kervin Valdez' company, Town Livery Inc., will be providing shuttle transportation services to the students and staff of Northern Essex Community College. A partnership in which the young entrepreneur will be assisting with the logistics of the post-secondary education institution, as a back-up to their internal structure.

The livery coach service firm has had a trail of milestones, in which its CEO Kervin, has sacrificed regular sleep patterns and time with family, in order to achieve them. Its mission is to extend a dependable, luxurious and stress-free chauffeured transportation service, across sectors.

Despite the short years of operations, the company has become a preferred vendor of the renowned Phillips Academy in Andover and a service provider for the American billionaire and businesswoman Aerin Lauder; as well as other international philanthropists and executives of similar profile. Successes in which the company has had to surpass a significant amount of challenges and scrutiny, such as obtaining a clearance from the Andover Police Department.

After state Senator Barry Finegold



presented him with a citation, recognizing the impact that his enterprise has had in the community, Kervin continued to work harder for the people of the city of Lawrence. The past November 23rd, he organized a turkey drive in partnership with the New England Patriots Cornerback Justin Bethel, with the goal of providing assistance to families in need, to have their thanksgiving dinner.

A brand with a luxury experience and an affordable price, Town Livery is a platform that provides airport transportation, corporate limousine services, party bus, wedding shuttle and concert/sporting events. "Developing and maintaining strong relationships with the clients and the communities I serve is our priority" says Kervin, as he now has moved toward

ENTREPRENEURS: PAGE 16

## Jajuga Delays Police Contract Arbitration on His Way Out the Door, Perry Eager to Settle Dispute

In the final days of Methuen Mayor Jim Jajuga's administration he asked the courts to delay – once again – the December 16th arbitration of the Police Superior Officer's Union Contract dispute.

Jajuga asked for the postponement until March 10th -12th putting the controversy square in the lap of new Mayor Neil Perry who took office on January 6, 2020.

Sources in Methuen city hall say that the city's continued delays are because they are having a hard time getting their own witnesses on the same page and several of the city's witnesses do not want to show up to testify.

Methuen Superior Officer's Union President Greg Gallant told The Valley Patriot Thursday that his union was ready to go forward months ago and that they opposed delaying the arbitration over the controversial contract, but there may be a silver lining.

"The city asked for this continuance and pushed the arbitration into March," Gallant said, "and we are not really happy about it because our members are eager for an opportunity to present our case. At least now we can look forward to resolving the issue in a non-biased, non-political environment. There has been a lot of slanderous statements made against us by members of the council and we can't wait to let the public know the truth about what has gone on."

"In the last year and a half there have been so so many untruths whereas, unfortunately we had to be very reserved in our comments. Now, we are looking forward to an opportunity for people to start seeing the truth. We are looking forward to sitting down with Mayor Perry."

CAN ARBITRATION BE AVOIDED?

Methuen Mayor Neil Perry told the Valley Patriot that he is "looking forward to going back to the table and potentially settling the superior officer's contract with the support of the new city council and avoid arbitration completely."

Greg Gallant said that he and his members would be happy to sit down with Perry and possibly avoid arbitration.

"Of course, we are happy to work with incoming Mayor Perry," he said.

"We are looking forward to an environment where people are willing to make decisions based on facts and data, and the actual truths about where we are and how we got here."

Gallant said that this latest delay will make conditions favorable for a resolution to the three year contract dispute that other media sources have incorrectly reported would pay superior officers upwards of \$425,000.

"Some of the stuff that other media sources have reported, and certain city councilors have been saying in public, are not true and they know it's not true. Yet, they continue to say them. We are all looking forward to the truth coming out and resolving this issue so we can all move forward." ♦

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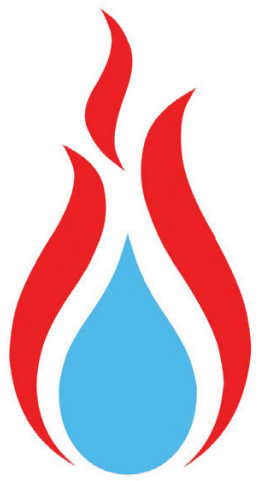
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# Local Police Chiefs: Despite Stats, Opioid Crisis Continues to Grow in the Valley

PART I of our Opioid Summit on The Paying Attention Podcast with Tom Duggan included the police chiefs from four different communities to discuss the opioid crisis and homelessness. Joining Duggan were; North Andover Chief Charles Gray, Haverhill Chief Alan DeNaro, Boxford Chief Jim Riter, and Methuen Chief Joe Solomon.

DUGGAN: You guys were here two years ago - what does the opioid crisis look like now as compared to two years ago?

NORTH ANDOVER CHIEF GRAY: North Andover has about 20,000 people in 26 square miles. Two years ago we were mostly dealing with crimes that are secondary to the opioid crisis; shoplifting, car breaks, house breaks, to acquire the funds to go to city to get drugs. Now we are seeing more OUI drugs, a lot of times secondary crimes are larcenies.

But, from where we were two years ago, the trend is that we're getting less reports of overdoses. But, we know it's going up, because we talk to people on the streets and work with families. A lot of times they are getting Narcan from community outreach and they are getting their own Narcan from places like Walgreens. So, they're not calling us anymore for the Narcan. We are seeing a reduction of the number of reported overdoses but, we know it's going up.

I would say that the opioid crisis is still out of control.

We can send [addicts] to rehab but because of the new protective custody laws, we can send them to the hospital but once they get to the hospital they can sign themselves out. The only time you're going to get someone clean is if they want it.

BOXFORD CHIEF RITER: I can speak to some of the Masconomet communities, we are seeing a dramatic drop in the number of the new acts but the age group we see is between 25 and 35, especially during the early part of the epidemic. We did have a fatal this spring from a woman who was in recovery at the time, but unfortunately she used again and she didn't make it. She was about 23 or 24 years old. She got addicted in college, came back, was fighting addiction for a period of time, and then passed away. So, it's out there but what we're dealing with isn't what the cities are dealing with.

We're not getting that many calls anymore for services and we are not using the Narcan as much as we used to. We've found people who have addiction are



The police chiefs of four communities appeared on The Paying Attention! Podcast to discuss the opioid and homeless crisis in the Merrimack Valley. From right to left are: Tom Duggan, Methuen Police Chief Joe Solomon, Haverhill Police Chief Alan DeNaro, Boxford Police Chief James Riter, and North Andover Police Chief Charles Gray. Paying Attention is recorded in front of a live studio audience at the Studio21 Podcast Cafe in Salem, NH.

no longer calling the police, they have a better understanding of how to use Narcan and what to do on their own so they're not calling us.

HAVERHILL CHIEF DENARO: Compared to two years ago, it's still a significant problem that we are facing.

As far as deaths, deaths are down because as you heard before Narcan is out in the community and it's readily available, and it's used quite frequently.

A lot of the addicts are now using places like McDonald's, Dunkin' Donuts, Taco Bell and those types of places where they shoot up in the bathrooms because they know that if they overdose and they are by themselves, they're going to be found quickly. This means they get a quicker response. There are some that will actually go into the hospital bathroom and tie their arm around the help cord, so if they pass out the cord will go off to a nurse and they will get the help right away. It's a significant problem. We have doubled the amount of Narcan that goes out to our officers on the street because we are finding that one or two doses in a pack isn't enough anymore. We are now

seeing people take three and four doses because they are becoming resistant to it. So, we are having to carry more Narcan in the cars.

We have fewer overdoses in our stats because now people are self-medicating so, we are not getting the calls but it is still a significant problem. We are still making multiple arrests in Haverhill involving people from New Hampshire,

Maine, and Lawrence; Lawrence being the delivery system to people in New Hampshire and Maine. But, they are coming to the four exit off route 495 in Haverhill because they feel like it's safer in Haverhill than going straight to Lawrence to buy their drugs, but their connections are coming right out of Lawrence.

DUGGAN: It seems like some of the crime is moving out of Lawrence and into your community. Is that true?

DENARO: Lawrence is six or seven square miles and they have about 150 police officers. I would need 150 more police officers if we wanted to do the same coverage by square miles. So, when you have that many officers in an area of six or seven square miles you can be

much more responsive to addressing those problems. That, in and of itself, pushes some of it out of that community. So, yeah when the state police come in in wolf packs and address these issues [in Lawrence] and the sheriff's office and other local and state agencies are coming to your community it will drive things to where there is less heat on them. But, when the crime moves out and comes toward us, eventually it moves back to Lawrence. They keep moving around. It's the same thing with the gangs, they come in and out of half a dozen communities as they need to and they do go back-and-forth.

We have a regional approach though. We all meet on a regular basis. Our detectives talk daily with other agencies. In fact, the chiefs of [different] communities all got together with the mayors last week in Haverhill on gang related violence and issues related to the opioid crisis.

We talked about best practices and things that we are all doing differently in our community. We don't always publicize them as much but we are doing them.

METHUEN CHIEF SOLOMON: I think the trends are totally different on the crime situations and the drug situation. So, for us we had about a 50% decrease in the amount of calls for services for opioids. We believe a lot of that is the availability of Narcan as the other chiefs have said. But, we have a lot of community engagement work that we're

OPIOIDS: PAGE 13

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## “WEATHER 101” WITH AL!

Al Kaprielian

VALLEY PATRIOT WEATHERMAN

Welcome to January and the first full month of the winter season. January is known to be the coldest month of the year. Now with the winter solstice behind us the days will continue to get longer with increasing daylight as we move through the month of January. Even though January is known to be the coldest month of the year we can get a mild/warm period during the month. This is known as the January thaw.

Recapping December we saw two large snowstorms to start the month. One storm occurred Sunday night December 1st into Monday morning December 2nd. A second stronger storm occurred Monday night December 2nd into Tuesday morning December 3rd. The second storm turned out to be stronger and more intense than the computer models indicated.

The combined snowfall from both storms averaged over a foot. Some snowfall amounts were as follows Townsend, MA 25.2”, Pepperell, MA 22.7”, Lowell, MA 22”, East Hawley, MA 24”, Methuen 17”, Andover 16.3” Haverhill 16”, Topsfield & North Andover, MA 15”, The jackpot in MA occurred in Fitchburg with 27.4”. The snowfall amounts decreased as you moved closer to the coast. The warmer ocean waters caused more rain along coastal areas keeping snowfall amounts less. On December 11th, another storm occurred with most of the snow occurring in MA with a 3-6” snowfall. Across NH amounts sharply dropped off. Even areas south of Boston saw 3-6” of snow with Kingston, MA getting 6”. Rutland in

Worcester county got 6.8”. Another storm occurred on December 17th. This storm produced a general snowfall of 2 to 4 inches across southern NH with Atkinson, NH getting 4.5 inches. After this storm moved away we saw about a nine day stretch of tranquil weather with mainly dry conditions. The weather became more active again for the last few days of December. This storm, which occurred Sunday night December 29th and went through Monday night December 30th, produced a variety of precipitation. Much of central & western MA got freezing rain with a half inch and greater of ice accretion. Freezing rain falls as a liquid like plain rain.

With ground temperatures at or below 32 degrees the rain freezes after making contact with the ground. This causes ice to form on surfaces and even trees and power lines. The weight of the ice causes trees and power lines to fall resulting in numerous power outages.

This was the case in central & western MA. This ice was not as severe as the



huge ice storm of December 2008 where a million people in NH lost power. The storm at the end of December caused mainly snow & sleet in NH due to more cold air in the upper atmosphere. An exception to this was the higher elevations in The Monadnock Region of NH where more freezing rain occurred.

The higher elevations in Southern NH did not give the raindrops enough time to turn into ice pellets (sleet). This storm moved away in time for a lot of the New Year’s Eve celebrations. In December we did not see a lot of arctic air as it remain trapped well north into Canada. Time will tell if it remains up there as we move through the month of January. Boston averaged 2.3 degrees above normal for December.

Now with January here we will be on the lookout for coastal storms to develop. When they develop, we will have to see how much phasing occurs with the northern & southern jet streams. The more phasing that occurs the greater our chances are for getting a significant storm. When no phasing occurs or if the phasing occurs too late when the storm is too far to our east or northeast then we escape getting a major storm.

When a winter storm occurs make sure you allow extra time to reach your destination. Also keep the speed down; going too fast on slippery roads can cause numerous accidents to occur. During a winter storm stay safe!!! Next month we will recap January’s weather and take a look at what to expect in the month of February. ♦



## PAYING ATTENTION!

with Tom Duggan

## My Predictions for 2020

Methuen Councilor Jim McCarty will get pulled over by State Troopers for speeding on Route 213 and blame it on a conspiracy by former Methuen Mayor Sharon Pollard and Police Chief Joe Solomon.

Newly elected member of the Gr. Lawrence Technical School Committee, Stephani Infante will continue to appropriate white culture by whitening her face with makeup, dressing like a “gringo”, posing for professional photos, and then complaining when people make comments about her looks because.... sexism.

A scandalous photo will surface of Methuen Mayor Neil Perry crossing the street without using the crosswalks, prompting Councilor Steve Saba to demand his resignation immediately because, “this is not the kind of person we want running our city.”

State Rep. Christina Minicucci will introduce a bill at the State House to ban all sneakers saying it will solve global warming. Minicucci will get a unanimous vote of the house after explaining to her colleagues that wearing sandals is much better for the environment.

North Andover Selectman Phil (of the future) DeCologero will write and star in his own kids show called Mama Mia meets the Tella Tubbies. Phil will be seen dressed as Tinkie Winkie singing songs by the Swedish signing group ABBA.

Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera will go bankrupt and become homeless, end up living under the Casey Bridge and get served free meals by the TMF kids, even though he won’t deserve it.

Diana DiZoglio will finally admit to the world that we eloped five years ago and change her name to Diana Duggan ... as it should be.

John Saba, Methuen Councilor Steve Saba’s brother – will lose all his anger and hatred, stop attacking people personally on Facebook for disagreeing with his political views, adopt a puppy, and become a happier person.

Jessica Finocchiaro will put together her first exploratory committee for president of the United States.

Fired and disgraced Lawrence Police Officer Bill Green will join a jamboree jug band in Louisiana and live the rest of his life on the streets of New Orleans.

Methuen councilor Nick DiZoglio will run against State Rep. Linda Dean

Campbell after Campbell went door to door with Nick last year helping him get elected.

Former Methuen Superintendent Judy Scannell will write a tell-all book naming all the corrupt politicians and everyone who knew and took advantage of the fact that she was never licensed to be a principal or superintendent over two decades.

Former Methuen City Councilor Joyce Campagnone will start her own non-profit called “Bean Suppers for Everyone”!

Voters in the valley will finally figure out that Barry Finegold is actually their State Senator when he shows up at a ribbon cutting in Lawrence and has to remind everyone who he is and what job he has held for the last two years.

Veterans Northeast Outreach (VNOC) will continue to lose grant money thanks to the hack job done by its new director Ed Mitchell.

VNOC founder John Ratka will continue to roll over in his grave as over the item above.

Former State Senator Barbara L’Italien will become a CNN contributor after claiming President Trump sexually harassed her even though the two of them have never been in the same room.

Methuen City Councilor DJ Beauregard will win a Sesame Street look-alike contest when Bert walks into the audition room and mistakes him for his long lost brother.

Former Lawrence State Rep. Juana Matias will be picked by Elizabeth Warren to be her vice presidential running mate.

Valley Patriot food columnist and Methuen City Councilor Joel Faretra will get offered his own show on the food network and get better ratings than Guy Fieri.

Methuen City Councilor Allie Saffie will be the deciding vote to stop Steve Saba’s family from opening up a pot shop in the Arlington neighborhood.

Methuen School Committee member Jana Zanni Pesce will become next year’s cover girl on Cosmo and put all this political foolishness behind her.

The Eagle~Tribune will commit an act of journalism when they accurately report on ONE story regarding politics in the valley.

State Senator Jamie Eldridge will be caught leaking military secrets to Hezbollah. Eldridge will yell Alahu Akbar as he is carted off by the FBI. ♦

# Join us for The Valley Patriot’s 16th Anniversary BASH!

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# Perry Names Atty. DiNatale Chief of Staff

Despite protests by his political enemies who dislike outgoing school committee member Attorney Jana DiNatale because of her role in Neil Perry's 71% win on election day, newly inaugurated Methuen Mayor Neil Perry has announced he has indeed hired DiNatale as his chief of staff in city hall.

The job of chief of staff for the mayor has no defined job description. The job duties of the chief of staff are determined by the mayor on an as needed basis. The mayor's chief of staff may act as the liaison between mayor and city council, work with department heads to develop priorities and impairment the mayor's directives, work with department heads as the mayor's representative when planning the city budget, run the actual office and oversee the mayor's other employees, interview prospective candidates for city jobs, write and approve the mayor's press releases, deal with constituent issues and prioritize the mayor's schedule.

Prior to the announcement of DiNatale to the position, councilor Steve Saba (who campaigned against Perry) orchestrated a public discussion at a city council meeting to express his displeasure that Perry might hire DiNatale claiming it would violate the city charter's cooling off period.

This, despite the fact that the city charter says an outgoing school committee member cannot take a job in the school department, Saba mislead the public to believe that it would prohibit DiNatale from taking the top job in the mayor's office.

Perry then sought an opinion from KP Law, formerly Kopelman and Paige, who cleared Perry to hire DiNatale and stated that her hiring did not violate state law or the city charter.

Perry also announced that Tom Lussier will serve as Director of Strategic Initiatives.

"I'm very excited that Jana and Tom have agreed to join my Administration – combined, they bring decades of experi-

ence in municipal and state government to our team. Working with people that I trust is very important to me – especially as I embark on this new life experience," Perry said.

"I'm grateful they both have accepted my invitation to help me implement my goals for the City of Methuen," Perry added.

Perry recently completed a nearly 40-year career as a senior executive at Raytheon. A third position in the Mayor's office – the Administrative Assistant to the Mayor – is currently being advertised and will be announced later this month.

A press release by Perry addressed the faux controversy about DiNatale taking the chief of staff position.

Attorney Klein opined, "...an individual whose term on the School Committee expires can then be appointed as the Mayor's Chief of Staff and further that the one (1) year employment/appointment prohibition only applies to city positions that fall under the jurisdiction of the School Committee (for example – Superintendent, School Administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, etc.).

Attorney Klein's opinion was also affirmed by Attorney Lauren Goldberg, the managing partner of KP Law and one of the foremost charter experts in the Commonwealth. Perry has also reviewed the circumstances of DiNatale's appointment with experts at the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission.

"I appreciate the questions that some have raised regarding Jana's status; however, I am very confident that my decision is based on a clear and appropriate interpretation of Methuen's Charter," Perry said.

Attorney Klein's opinion, together with background on Attorney DiNatale and Mr. Lussier, is below.

Attorney Jana DiNatale

After graduating from the University of Massachusetts Lowell, Jana DiNatale worked in the accounting field for several



years. She then attended law school, graduating magna cum laude from New England Law in 1999.

After law school, she spent two years working with Superior Court Judges across the Commonwealth on all types of civil and criminal cases. Attorney DiNatale worked with some of this state's most distinguished judges, including the Honorable Hiller Zobel, the Honorable Carol Ball, the Honorable Isaac Borenstein, the Honorable Peter Agnes, the Honorable Howard Whitehead, the Honorable Mary-Lou Rup, and Chief Justice Dortch Okara, the first woman to become CJAM for the Trial Courts.

Attorney DiNatale was then hired by the Essex District Attorney's Office as an Assistant District Attorney. In addition to prosecuting misdemeanor and felony cases across the county, Attorney DiNatale was subsequently named Deputy Director of Training. In her time with the District Attorney's Office, she handled thousands of cases in District, Superior, and Juvenile Courts, including a variety of high-profile cases. Attorney DiNatale tried cases that

were the first of their kind in the state and was requested to train other Massachusetts lawyers in areas of expertise.

In 2014, Attorney DiNatale left the District Attorney's Office to focus on family and community. Soon thereafter she was appointed to the Methuen School Committee and went on to be elected to two more terms. She decided not to seek re-election to a third term, as her children were out of Methuen Public Schools and she felt a parent should have the opportunity to serve on the committee.

Attorney DiNatale has been a local activist who cares deeply about Methuen and its residents. Over the past five years Attorney DiNatale has contributed hundreds of hours to local groups and organizations with the goal of bringing unity and collaboration to our community. She is the founder of two Methuen groups, Methuen United and MethuenMARocks, she has served for over 10 years on the Timony Parent Teacher Organization, and she has contributed generously to other groups and events over the years.

MAYOR: PAGE 7

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# Methuen, Lowell Man Arrested for Conspiracy to Distribute Fentanyl

BOSTON – Two men were arrested on Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2019, and charged with conspiracy to distribute fentanyl.

Steven Perez, of Lowell, and Anthony Holloway, of Methuen, were arrested and charged with conspiracy to distribute and possession with intent to distribute fentanyl. Following an initial appearance in federal court in Boston, Perez and Holloway were detained pending a detention and probable cause hearing set for Dec. 19, 2019.

According to the charging documents, over the course of several months, law enforcement investigated Perez and Holloway’s fentanyl distribution operation. The men allegedly used an elderly housing complex run by the Methuen Housing Authority to package drugs and conduct

drug sales.

The charge of conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute fentanyl carries a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, at least three years of supervised release and a fine of \$1 million. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

United States Attorney Andrew Lelling; Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Boston Field Office; and Methuen Police Chief Joseph Solomon made the announcement. Assistant U.S. Attorney Philip C. Cheng of Lelling’s Narcotics and Money Laundering Unit is prosecuting the case. ♦

## MAYOR: FROM PAGE 6

Thomas R. Lussier

Tom Lussier is President of The Lussier Group, a governmental affairs consulting firm based in Massachusetts. The Lussier Group offers a full range of government-related consulting services and legislative representation primarily focused on public employee pension and health benefits. Recent clients have included the Retired State, County, and Municipal Employees Association of Massachusetts and the California Public Employees Retirement System. In addition, the firm is engaged in the management of national coalitions in support of specific Federal advocacy objectives, including the Coalition to Preserve Retirement Security (CPRS) and the Public Sector HealthCare Roundtable.

Mr. Lussier previously served as Executive Director and CEO of the Massachusetts Teachers’ Retirement System (MTRS). For nearly 19 years, he was responsible for the administration of retirement benefits for approximately 110,000 active and retired teachers and school administrators of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. During his tenure, Mr. Lussier was recognized as a forward-thinking public manager who built a client-oriented service organization; a successful legislative advocate for the System in Massachusetts and beyond; and an effective coalition builder at both the state and federal levels.

He has served as President of the National Council on Teacher Retirement (NCTR); Chairman of the National Coalition to Preserve Retirement Security (CPRS); and President of the National Preretirement Education Association (NPEA). He has been an instructor with the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans’ Certificate of Achievement in Public Plan Policy (CAPPP™) in Employee Pensions and is a former member



of the Foundation’s Public Employee Committee. Mr. Lussier recently completed a term as a member of the Group Benefits Advisory Committee for the Employees Retirement System of Texas.

Prior to the MTRS, he served as the First Deputy Commissioner of the Massachusetts Division of Public Employee Retirement Administration and was elected to four terms in the Massachusetts House of Representatives. He has the distinction of being the youngest person elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives; he was first elected in 1977 at the age of nineteen. In 1976, Mr. Lussier was elected to the City Council in Pittsfield, MA.

He is a former member of the Massachusetts Retirement Law Commission, and a former Trustee of the Methuen Contributory Retirement System in Methuen, MA.

In addition to his professional engagements, Mr. Lussier is actively involved in his community. He serves as President of the Methuen Festival of Trees, Inc., Chairman of the Methuen Historic District Commission, and is an active member of the Methuen Historical Society, Inc. ♦

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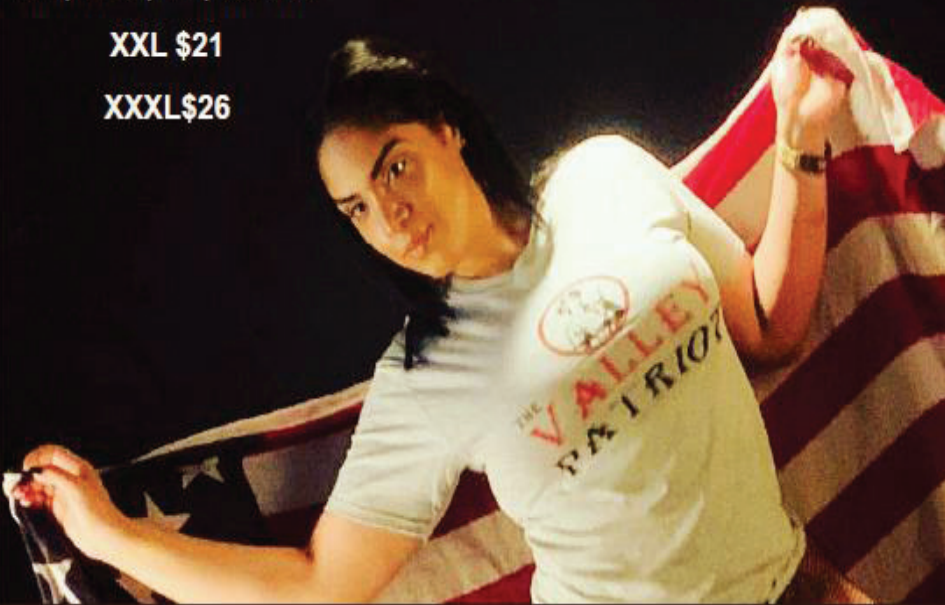
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**PERRY’S MONUMENTAL POLITICAL BLUNDER**

In politics, perception is everything. During the last mayoral election in Methuen, Neil Perry’s critics claimed that because he was being supported by former Methuen Mayor Sharon Pollard, he was going to be a “puppet” for Pollard if he got elected.

Now, I’m not exactly sure what being “Pollard’s puppet” is supposed to mean. Nobody has ever explained how “Being Pollard’s puppet” will influence anything in a negative way. No one has ever detailed what evil, secret agenda Pollard has that would motivate her to be someone’s puppet master. Nonetheless, Perry’s conspiracy-crazed critics failed to convince the voters that either Perry was a secret mole for Pollard, or that being a secret mole for Pollard is a bad thing. In the end, the Perry haters got 29% of the vote while Perry garnered 71% of the vote. This still enrages those who campaigned against Perry. They launch personal attacks on Facebook every day, try out new conspiracy theories and predict the destruction of Methuen because, of course, Perry is Sharon Pollard’s puppet.

So, it was more than jarring when Perry announced last week that he was hiring Sharon Pollard’s husband, Tom Lussier, to be his new “Director of Strategic Initiatives”. This makes his haters like John and Steve Saba look like geniuses and gives the public the perception that Perry is, in fact, doing Pollard’s bidding whether it’s true or not.


For the record, I don’t think it’s true at all. But, with Steve Saba gearing up to run against Perry in two years, and the ‘Never-Perry’ political forces chomping at the bit to criticize and oppose his every move, Perry would have been better off hiring, well, just about anyone else. And I say that as someone who truly likes Tom Lussier and thinks he is an incredibly smart person. He is certainly capable of doing the job and will be an asset to Perry in the area of economic development.

But he also brings the liability of being former Mayor Sharon Pollard’s husband which makes the two conspiracy nuts on the city council even more paranoid and more suspicious of every single thing Perry does from this point forward. This, at a time when Perry’s credibility and image needs to be squeaky clean as he prepares to take on the task of running the city amid the backroom, hateful politics of personal destruction that never really ends when the election is over. Make no mistake about it, Perry is not a politician, and those who defend him say that his knowing the controversy of hiring Tom Lussier, and hiring him anyway, means he is not making decisions for the city based on politics. But, not everyone is going to see it that way. People who ran around at election time defending Perry and assuring people he was no puppet for Pollard now look like they have egg on their faces. This was a political controversy that could have been easily avoided. It’s a monumental blunder from a political standpoint. From a governing standpoint, however, I think we owe it to Perry to see what he can accomplish and hold out judgment despite the controversy. A controversy that never needed to happen.

**SPEAKING OF SHARON POLLARD**

While we are on the subject of Sharon Pollard it would be journalistic negligence for me not to point out that, whatever her faults may be, Pollard was elected three times as mayor. She balanced the city budget all six years she was mayor, sometimes with a surplus. She didn’t layoff cops, the schools were top rated, and the city wasn’t approving scandalous police contracts, insurmountable lawsuits, didn’t have a school department overspending by \$4M, and there was no looming state takeover

TOM DUGGAN’S NOTEBOOK



Methuen Mayor Neil Perry is sworn in January 6th by Tina Conway. The inauguration of the mayor, city council, school committee, housing authority, and library board of trustees were also sworn in that evening.

because of financial mismanagement. All those things occurred after Pollard left office and were perpetrated by those who came after her.

Anyone who knows me, knows I am not fan of Sharon Pollard’s politics. But, the truth is what it is and you can’t take that away from her.

**BILL GREEN AND A RECORD OF FAILURE**

Fired and disgraced former Lawrence Police Officer William Green has a perfect record when it comes to losing in court. Green was fired by Lawrence Mayor Mike Sullivan for being a corrupt cop who abandoned details, stole money from side jobs working in the city’s night clubs, assaulted a fellow officer, perjured himself during the investigation of that assault, and that’s just for openers.

If you remember, Green ran for mayor two years ago and failed, sued the police department at the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination and failed, sued one of his mistresses and failed, filed a wrongful termination suit and failed, tried to have two superior officers fired and failed, and last month he appealed his firing to a civil service court, and ... you guessed it ... he failed.

**TMF MENTIONED DURING PERRY’S INAUGURATION**

The Movement Family, or TMF for short is a group of kids (mostly from Lawrence) who feed the homeless in Lawrence and bring services directly to the homeless such as Tewksbury Detox and the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center and more. Perry thanked TMF and their founder Michael Gorman saying he had been to the family dinners to feed the homeless in Lawrence and will continue to do so. To read the entire speech, go to page 18.

**PERRY HONORS 99 YEAR OLD WWII VETERAN AT SWEARING IN**

Theresa Skorupka (99), current resident at Methuen Village Assisted Living and Compass Memory Support, was honored during the Methuen Municipal Inauguration Ceremony by Methuen Mayor Neil Perry. According to the Veterans office, they believe her to be the oldest living female veteran in the Merrimack Valley.

Ms. Skorupka was escorted in a police car to the event, accompanied by Beth Haydon, Director of Community Relations at Methuen Village. To read the entire speech go to page 18.

**AMERICAN LEGION, DRACUT**

Please join us at the Dracut American Legion on RT 113 in Dracut, on February 15th, 2020, at 7pm as we pay tribute to US Marine Corp Veteran’s Phil and Don Everly with a free concert highlighting their music. Family event, with no admission. The Dracut American Legion asks all World War II and Korean War Veterans to call 603-518-5368 and sign up for an Honor Flight to the Memorials in Washington DC!

**MCDONALD’S HONORS LOCAL LAWRENCE RESTAURANT MGR WITH PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL AWARD**

Lawrence McDonald’s restaurant manager Carlos Canales was celebrated as he won the distinguished Ray Kroc Award. The awards are an annual performance-based honor that recognize the top performing McDonald’s restaurant managers globally.

Carlos was one of 365 McDonald’s Restaurant Managers around the world, from 60 markets, representing the top one percent of restaurant managers, to receive the honor, which includes a cash prize and a trophy. He has worked at McDonald’s for 4 years and will be awarded his prize on April 22, 2020 at the Ray Kroc Gala Awards Gala in Orlando, Florida.

“I was so excited to learn that I was chosen for the Ray Kroc award this year,” said Carlos Canales. “This honor is for more than just me, it recognizes my team and the hard work we all put in together.”

McDonald’s independent franchisees and regional management nominate restaurant managers for the Ray Kroc Awards – named after the company’s founder – to recognize their hard work, dedication, and commitment to McDonald’s and its customers.

“Carlos has demonstrated strong leadership abilities since he started with us. It’s been great to watch him grow personally and professionally,” said David Yee, Lawrence McDonald’s owner/operator. “We’re delighted to recognize Carlos for going the extra mile for his team and customers.”

McDonald’s is committed to creating employment opportunities for people of all ages and from all backgrounds, as well as boosting employability to help people gain the skills and experience they need to progress in their careers. They provide opportunities for progression and promoting from within; around 90% of restaurant management began their careers as crew members. McDonald’s also supports current crewmembers with Archways to Opportunities, which offers eligible employees access to educational programs.

**2020 CITY OF LAWRENCE TAX ABATEMENT**

Consideration Opportunity Ends at 4:30pm on Monday, February 3, 2020

Lawrence Property Owners Concerned About Tax Bills or Seeking Tax Abatements:

If you are seeking an abatement, or have concerns regarding your property values on your current tax bills, you must file a request for a tax abatement. These requests must be complete —either USPS postmarked by / or submitted in person — no later than 4:30pm on Monday Feb 3rd. It is important to note that if you are seeking an abatement, your taxes must still be paid on time. Now is the time to address this matter and file for consideration.

If you have questions or need guidance, please contact the City of Lawrence Assessor’s Office at (978) 620-3190 or in person at City Hall, 200 Common Street, 1st floor Room 103. City Hall is open Monday thru Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm.

Know your rights & more about filing an abatement: [cityoflawrence.com/224/Abatement-Applications](http://cityoflawrence.com/224/Abatement-Applications)

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The Assessor's webpage: [cityoflawrence.com/215/Assessor](http://cityoflawrence.com/215/Assessor)

**\*\* Please share generously with family, friends and neighbors who maybe eligible!**

**\*\* La traducción al español está próxima y estará disponible en breve.**

**NORTH ANDOVER MERCHANT'S ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP**

The North Andover Merchants Association will be awarding The Sylvie Foulds \$2,000 scholarship to a Merchant Association Member's graduating high school senior. The student may be pursuing any degree/residing in any town. A business owner may designate a current employee to represent that business in submitting an application on behalf of the business. This is at the discretion of the business owner/member. One application per business please: If more than one submitted, they will all be disqualified. Please be sure to use the right scholarship application! This is one of the great benefits to being a Merchants Association member!

Requirement: Business must be a current 2020 North Andover Merchant Association member. ♦

Newburyport Bank Donates \$1,000 to Hampton Area Chamber of Commerce

Newburyport, MA – As an Event Gold Sponsor, Newburyport Bank has donated \$1,000 to the Hampton Area Chamber of Commerce in support of their Annual Dinner and Awards Event, to be held at Seabrook Park, Seabrook, NH on Thursday, January 23, 2020. The awards will be presented to deserving Chamber members, chosen by the Chamber President and members themselves. A buffet dinner and gaming will follow. The proceeds of the Seabrook Park Casino for the evening will go to a local nonprofit.

Lloyd L. Hamm, President & CEO of the Bank is proud to sponsor the Hampton Area Chamber. "The Annual Awards Dinner is really a culmination of all the creative programs and events they do throughout the year to promote the economic growth of the NH Seacoast," he said. "Not only is their commitment laudable, but it also invigorates our own longstanding commitment to the financial health of our Seacoast region."

LOWELL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**LAUNCHES WEBSITE TOHELP RESIDENTS FIND SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT**

Lowell, MA – The Lowell Health Department and its partners from across Greater Lowell have relaunched the Drug Free Greater Lowell website this month. The website features information on how to navigate Substance Use Disorder treatment options; up-to-date treatment, recovery, and support resources in the Greater Lowell region; tips for Substance Use Disorder prevention, and more. The website is a unique resource for all, including individuals in recovery, loved ones, and providers.

While exploring the new Drug Free Greater Lowell website, don't forget to sign-up for the Drug Free Greater Lowell newsletter! This newsletter highlights new initiatives and programs, and discusses the most relevant info about the opioid and substance abuse epidemics in Greater Lowell. The Drug Free Greater Lowell website was originally launched in 2010 and has since been updated several times, with a full revision this year. The website will be managed by the Lowell Health Department, but is a collaboration of the towns of Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Tewksbury, Westford, and Wilmington. For more information about the website, visit [www.drugfreegreaterlowell.org](http://www.drugfreegreaterlowell.org) or call 978-674-4304.

**GOP CHAIRMAN TAKES ON CORRUPTION IN THE POT INDUSTRY**

WOBURN -- Massachusetts Republican Party Chairman Jim Lyons said Monday he's not surprised that a scheme involving illegal campaign donations made by a then-hopeful marijuana dispensary owner to a Middleborough Democrat running for state representative resulted in a mere slap on the wrist.

"This is Massachusetts, after all, where our own Attorney General Maura Healey is nowhere to be found when it comes to investigating her fellow Democrats for corruption," Lyons said.

In December, the Office of Campaign & Political Finance agreed to fine current Middleborough Selectman Allin Frawley, a Democrat who ran for the 12th Bristol state representative seat, \$2,000 "to resolve several campaign finance issues" -- the same amount he was found to have illegally received in donations.

According to the disposition agreement reached between Frawley and OCPF Director Michael Sullivan, in June 2018, Frawley's campaign reported receiving four individual contributions of the maximum \$1,000 allowed under state law. Frawley, however, later admitted to OCPF that the \$4,000 came from only two individuals -- Tim and Lilli Shaw.

What OCPF did not disclose in the agreement is that Tim and Lilli Shaw at that time were seeking permits from the Middleborough Board of Selectmen to open a marijuana facility.

The Shaw's Panacea Wellness facility opened for business for medical customers last month and aims to be a recreational retailer by March.

"I did not hear about this in the news and I did not see any link disclosed between Selectman Frawley and the marijuana dispensary in the OCPF report," Lyons said. "We've seen the U.S. Department of Justice already expose this same pattern of corruption in Fall River, yet our own Massachusetts corruption watchdogs like AG Healey are always nowhere to be found.

"If I had to connect the dots by myself to find out what's going on in Middleborough, you have to wonder how much more of this is happening in the rest of the state."

In November 2018, current Republican state Rep. Norman Orrall of Lakeville defeated Selectman Frawley to win the 12th Bristol seat.



Senior Advanced Manufacturing students Derolin Gonzalez, left, and Nilson Hernandez, right, show a milling machine to Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, center. (Courtesy Photo Greater Lawrence Tech)

**Baker-Polito Administration Awards GLTS \$60,000 Advanced Manufacturing Grant**

ANDOVER -- Superintendent John Lavoie is pleased to announce that Greater Lawrence Technical School has been awarded \$60,000 by the state to support workforce development programming for adults studying advanced manufacturing.

Lt. Governor Karyn Polito visited Greater Lawrence Tech on Tuesday to announce \$2.5 million in grants to four regional consortiums through the state's Advanced Manufacturing Training Program to support workforce development in advanced manufacturing programs. The grants seek to support schools as they craft advanced manufacturing training programs and opportunities to ensure students are receiving the necessary workforce development to succeed in careers in advanced manufacturing. The funding also aims to address the needs of the manufacturing industry in the Commonwealth and its need for more trained workers.

"We cannot solve the workforce skills gap with only student graduates from high schools, we need to tap into the adult community that is looking to re-skill or up-skill to these new skills needed for this economy," Lt. Governor Polito said. "And to open up schools and classrooms like this so that people can access the training so they can plug into jobs that are here, that are growing and also pay more."

Several elected and appointed officials also attended and spoke at the event, including Massachusetts Secretary of Housing and Workforce Development Mike Kennealy, Rep. Frank A. Moran, Rep. Christina Minicucci, and Rep. Jeffrey Roy. Brian Norris, director of the Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium, also spoke at the event.

"This funding will make a meaningful difference for our adult students looking to enter a field that is growing, and needs more skilled workers," Superintendent Lavoie said. "We are incredibly thankful to the Baker-Polito administration for their support of our programming, as well as all of our local legislators who continue to advocate on behalf of our students."

The funding will allow Greater Lawrence Tech to offer a one week boot camp to adult students in contextualized English for English Learners and a one week mathematics boot camp. Approximately 20 students will participate in the camps, which will begin in January.

Rep. Moran, a 1989 graduate of Greater Lawrence Tech, spoke to the benefits his education at Greater Lawrence Tech gave him as a young professional.

"It helped me," Moran said. "By the time I graduated high school, by the time I was 19-years-old I already owned my own home. That's what a co-op did. That's why this is so good. This grant will help us educate not only young folks, but also adults."

Following the grant announcement, legislators and school officials toured the school's Advanced Manufacturing Department and spoke with senior students in the program.

Schools that were awarded funding in addition to Greater Lawrence Tech include Essex Tech, Whittier Tech and Shawsheen Valley Tech.



**OPEN YEAR ROUND!**



# One Shot, One Stabbed in Christmas Eve Violence in Lawrence, Methuen

Police Arrest Christmas Eve Shooter in Lawrence

While most people were celebrating Christmas Eve with their families Tuesday night, police in Lawrence and Methuen were busy investigating two separate incidents of violence in the area of Broadway on the Lawrence, Methuen line.

Shortly after 7:30 PM Methuen police were called to the intersection of Center St. and Broadway where a Methuen resident was gunned down.

Police say the victim was transported to a local hospital and is being treated with non-life threatening injuries. State and local police cordoned off the area and investigated the shooting. Police say the victim was not cooperative and have doubts about his story, that a man randomly shot him while he was walking on Broadway.

The suspect was taken into custody less than 48 hours after the incident.

Methuen police say they took a 17 year old “juvenile” into custody at approximately 11 PM Thursday night at 531 Lowell Street in Lawrence.

He is being charged with assault with intent to murder while in possession of a firearm, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery causing serious bodily injury, discharge of a firearm within 500 feet of a dwelling, and carrying a firearm without a license.

Police would not release the name



or photo of the suspect because he is a “juvenile”.

Just blocks away, at almost the same time a man was stabbed on Broadway in Lawrence at a barber shop. Sources say two barbers began to argue before one stabbed the other.

The stabbing victim was also transported to a local hospital and is being treated for serious injuries. Lawrence Police did not say if they have the stabber in custody.

# Lawrence Man Pleads Guilty to Distribution/Possession of Fentanyl

BOSTON – A Lawrence man pleaded guilty yesterday in federal court in Boston in connection with selling fentanyl.

John Mena, 24, pleaded guilty to one count of distribution and possession with intent to distribute fentanyl before U.S. District Court Judge William G. Young, who scheduled sentencing for April 6, 2020.

According to court documents, Mena sold approximately 13g of fentanyl in a transaction that an undercover agent witnessed. Mena was arrested in Lawrence on July 16, 2019, as part of a 10-week coordinated enforcement operation in the Merrimack Valley called “Devil’s Highway.”

The operation targeted the distribution of opioids, including fentanyl and heroin, and resulted in charges against a total of

40 people for federal drug offenses, with at least a dozen more individuals facing state charges.

The charge of distribution and possession with intent to distribute fentanyl carries a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, a minimum of three years and up to a lifetime of supervised release and a fine of \$1 million. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling; Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Field Division; Essex County District Attorney Jonathan W. Blodgett; and Lawrence Police Chief Roy Vasque made the announcement today. Assistant U.S. Attorney Alexandra Brazier of Lelling’s Office is prosecuting the case. ◇

## Two Lawrence Nonprofits Are Among 51 Charities to Receive a Grant from Speedway Children’s Charities

Speedway Children’s Charities New Hampshire Chapter distributed grants totaling \$55,375 to 51 charities to help 59,329 children across New England including the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence and Merrimack Valley YMCA.

LOUDON, N.H. – The holiday spirit filled The Palace Theatre in Manchester, N.H. on Tuesday as Manchester, N.H. Mayor Joyce Craig joined Speedway Children’s Charities New Hampshire Chapter at its 11th annual grant distribution ceremony. Grants were handed out to 51 local nonprofits totaling \$55,375 in front of the festive backdrop from “A Christmas Carol.”

“Today is such a feel-good day,” said David McGrath, executive vice president and general manager of New Hampshire Motor Speedway. “True holiday spirit is all about helping those who need a little extra, and I’m so proud to be a part of this team who makes the holidays brighter for so many children in our community.”

Since its inception in 2009, New Hampshire Motor Speedway and SCC have distributed more than \$1.8 million, supporting more than 808,000 children in the local community.

“This is the best way to wrap up the year of fundraising and kick off the holiday season,” said Hillarie Scott, director of Speedway Children’s Charities New Hampshire Chapter. “Seeing the faces of those receiving the grants and hearing what they’re planning on doing with the money to help kids in New England makes it all worth it.”

Funds raised through the New Hampshire Chapter includes events such as the Dale Jr. Foundation Safe Kids 301, a motorcycle ride, Laps for Charity, the Charity Clay Shoot presented by NRA, Champions Breakfast, the Wicked Good Live Auction, Track Walk presented by PPG, the Red Bucket Brigade by PPG, the One for the Kids Golf Tournament, 24 Hours of Lemons Halloween Hooptifest, the New England Half Marathon, the Yule Light Up The Night Run/Walk and Gift of Lights presented by Eastern Propane & Oil.

Craig expressed her gratitude for the many organizations that make the city



of Manchester and the state of New Hampshire a great place, and how important the work they do is, especially during this time of year.

“During this time of giving, it’s only fitting that we are here together thanks to the New Hampshire Motor Speedway and Speedway Children’s Charities,” said Craig. “All of you here today are among the many organizations that make our city and our state a great place, and I want to thank all of you for your dedication and your service to our children. I’m proud to be here with all of you to recognize the outstanding work that you do.”

The New Hampshire Chapter is one of eight chapters around the country, and combined in 2019, Speedway Children’s Charities distributed over \$3 million in grants to more than 415 different charitable organizations across the country, bringing the total funds distributed since 1982 to more than \$58.3 million, ensuring many children in need are given the tools to build a better, brighter and healthy future. The money raised comes in large part thanks to the fundraising efforts of the eight Speedway Motorsports facilities: Atlanta Motor Speedway, Bristol Motor Speedway, Charlotte Motor Speedway, Kentucky Speedway, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Sonoma Raceway and Texas Motor Speedway.

## MA Coalition for Immigration Reform (MCIR) Opposes MA Becoming a Sanctuary State

Nationwide, from 2011 to 2018, unlawful immigrants committed 667,000 drug offenses, 42,000 robberies, 25,000 homicides, 91,000 sex crimes, 213,000 assaults, 95,000 weapons offenses, and 81,000 auto thefts, according to a report from the US General Accountability Office (GAO). The GAO also found that the average criminal alien had been arrested an average of seven times. Nonetheless, legislators on Beacon Hill have introduced the euphemistically-named “Safe Communities Act,” that would decree Massachusetts a sanctuary state, a measure that would shield criminal aliens from law enforcement and expose Massachusetts residents to unacceptable risk.

In its Annual Meeting earlier this month, the Massachusetts Coalition for Immigration Reform (MCIR) agreed that its highest priority for the coming year would be to work to prevent the Safe Communities Act from becoming law, and pledged to work with concerned citizens, lawmakers of both parties, and the Governor to oppose sanctuary status for our state.

Like most Americans, MCIR believes that non-citizens who commit serious offenses should be deported, as per the 1996 Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act.

Regrettably, many persons in authority in the Commonwealth disagree with this basic principle and try to obstruct local police from cooperating with Federal authorities in deporting criminal aliens.

Sanctuary advocates try to confuse the public by claiming that this law is needed to avoid mass deportations of otherwise peaceful individuals. But the Safe Communities Act law only concerns individuals who are already in custody for serious offenses.

MCIR urges voters to make their op-

position to this bill clear by testifying at the hearings, by communicating with their lawmakers by letters, emails, telephone call or personal visits. On January 24, 2020, the Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security of the State Legislature is scheduled to hold a public meeting on the sanctuary legislation (H. 3573). We urge people to get in touch with us about attending the hearing (see below for contact info).

MCIR’s second priority is to pass a mandatory E-Verify, in order to prevent unauthorized immigrants from taking jobs that could be filled by Americans and legal immigrants.

Unscrupulous employers like to hire unauthorized immigrants because they are easily exploitable, and will work for lower wages than American workers. MCIR calls upon legislators of all parties to enact E-Verify to require employers to verify that prospective workers are legally authorized to work in the United States.

E-Verify is simple to use, inexpensive, and reliable. Some 19 states already have such laws and other states such as Pennsylvania and Florida adopted similar laws this year.

MCIR also opposes legislation that would allow undocumented immigrants to receive 1) in-state tuition and 2) to driver’s licenses (H3012/S2061). MCIR members testified against these bills earlier this year.

MCIR invites all concerned citizens to work with us in enacting laws that enhance the safety and economic well-being of American citizens and lawful residents. MCIR pledges to help concerned citizens in making their voices heard and invites them to contact us,

For any questions regarding this issue contact: John Thompson (617) 939-9048 [thompsonmcir@yahoo.com](mailto:thompsonmcir@yahoo.com) ◇



JOEL’S METHUEN FOOD CORNER

Bada Bings, Chris’ & Anthony’s

Joel Faretra  
VALLEY PATRIOTFOOD COLUMNIST

Happy New Year! 2020 is shaping up to be a busy year and I am sure to build up an appetite. Thank you for all the feedback from my roast beef column. This month, I tried steak bombs from three different sub shops in Methuen. I hit up Chris’ Famous Pizza, Bada Bing and Anthony’s on Riverside Drive. I will rate each sub on a scale of 1-5 beards, with 5 beards being the best.

CHRIS’ FAMOUS PIZZA  
124 Lowell St. Methuen, MA  
chrisfamouspizza.com  
(978) 687-2333

My first stop was Chris’. When we moved to Methuen, this was the first place we got food from, since it was right around the corner. There is something to be said for consistency- not much has changed in 20 years, which isn’t an easy feat. They have added some menu items, but the quality hasn’t changed since my initial visit in 2001.

My sub was packed, meat falling out as soon as I unwrapped it. Good ratio of meat to fillings (I held the mushrooms on all the subs I ordered) and the sub roll was fresh. I recommend getting onion rings from Chris’ as a side, some of the better onion rings in the area. Not stringy at all and crispy. You get a good amount as a side order.

Rating- 4 beards



BADA BING/BADA BOOM  
32 Hampshire St. Methuen, MA  
badabingmenu.com  
(978) 683-0009

Bada Bing was my next stop. Instead of ordering to go, we decided to eat on the Bada Boom side. Great sports bar atmosphere and ownership is a huge supporter of the community, donating to a variety of youth sports groups and supporting the Methuen HS Booster program.

If you eat in the bar, you can get freshly popped popcorn, a favorite of mine! For the sandwich, I got a steak bomb with no mushrooms. When you dine in, you get to choose either fries or homemade chips. The homemade chips are definitely the



way to go. They are made to order and come out warm with your sandwich. The sub was great! Bread was fresh, not too much cheese and a good amount of peppers and onions. I only finished half of the sub and needed to bring the second half home.

Bonus review- Bada Bing has a unique version of the steak and cheese sub but made with shredded chicken in place of steak. They have a Buffalo version and a BBQ version. A must try!

Rating- 4.5 beards

ANTHONY’S ROAST BEEF & PIZZA  
1111 Riverside Dr Methuen, MA  
anthonyсроastbeef.com  
(978) 655-1400

My last stop this month was Anthony’s Roast Beef. I decided to try their subs after receiving an email from a reader. The steak bomb from Anthony’s comes with salami, a nice twist. The sub went heavy on the cheese, which overpowered the taste of the rest of the sub. I ordered onion rings with the sub, as I did at Chris’. I would rate them on par with the onion rings from Royal Roast Beef from last month’s review.

Every week, they offer ½ off specials. On Monday, it’s calzones, Tuesday’s special is pizza and Wednesday its ½ off pasta. We tried the golden fever calzone since we ordered on a Monday and it was great! I didn’t previously realize the scope of their menu with the variety of specialty subs, calzones and pizzas. I will definitely be back to try more of the menu.

Rating- 4 beards

Next month, I will be trying Chinese takeout!. If you have a favorite take out place that you want me to try, drop me an email at jfaretra67@gmail.com. Happy New Year and Mangia!!! ◇

Latest Pot News Big Buzzkill in Dracut

Brian Genest  
DRACUT COLUMNIST

There’s plenty of weed news wafting out of Dracut Town Hall these days; and most of it stinks. If you’re a town taxpayer, try not to let the latest mind-numbing developments destroy your faith in the man, man...

At their December meeting, Town Attorney James Hall told members of the board of selectmen there are problems with Dracut’s host community agreements with pot-related businesses, as well as spending restrictions on the 3% tax the town will collect on retail marijuana sales. Talk about a downer!

Hall said former Town Manager James Duggan had signed six host community agreements with marijuana-related businesses before his departure, but hadn’t brought them to the board for approval, as required by the terms of those agreements.

“I don’t know what happened. I don’t even want to conject,” Hall answered when Selectman Tami Dristiliaris asked how the agreements had slipped through the cracks.

As a result of the screwup, selectmen delayed a vote on a special permit for Lazy River Products LLC, which plans to open a facility for marijuana production and retail sales at 145 Broadway Road. The company was before the board to amend the permit that selectmen approved last July.

In case you’ve missed it, weed is already turning out to be quite a trip in Dracut. Town meeting voters narrowly rejected a marijuana moratorium in 2017, blazing the trail for retail marijuana sales in town. The temporary ban would have included dispensing, processing and cultivation activities, as well as the sale, storage and distribution of marijuana for non-medical use.

In 2018, town meeting voters subsequently passed three articles related to marijuana – one outlining boundaries for marijuana establishments, one restricting retail marijuana establishments to the industrial zone and one imposing a 3-percent tax on retail sales of marijuana. Selectmen also authorized the town manager to hire special town counsel to handle cannabis projects, if needed.

Perhaps special counsel was and is needed. And that’s soberingly sad, considering the last thing Dracut taxpayers need is more money being burned on more town legal bills. Talk about getting scorched!

Anyway, Hall also informed selectmen that all the host community agreements must be reviewed and amended with information justifying how the 3% tax to be collected by the town is going to be spent. Hall said no explanations were included in



the agreements that were signed with Lazy River Products or the other companies. He also indicated that the money collected can only be used for items related to the impact of the business, such as the installation of traffic signs, lighting and other municipal expenses.

Selectman Alison Hughes said she and her colleagues were under the impression that the marijuana money could be used for any purpose. Hall said that is not the case and that expenditures of collected funds must be site specific. Talk about a big buzzkill!

“Then what does it do for us?” Selectman Joe DiRocco asked.

“I can answer that question in two weeks.” Hall responded.

The host community agreement that Duggan signed with Lazy River Products LLC has already been submitted to the state; Hall and Interim Town Manager Ann Vandal are working with the company to review the terms and determine if any changes are needed, so an agreement can be approved by Dracut selectmen before the company goes before the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission for its license on January 16th. Selectmen have a meeting scheduled for January 14th, although Chairman Jesse Forcier indicated that a special meeting could also be called to approve the amended agreement, if necessary.

“I don’t think it’s going to be a major problem,” Hall reassured selectmen about the agreement. “I think if we move quickly, we can resolve this and resolve the others.”

In any event, don’t put on a Cheech & Chong movie or break out the munchies just yet.

What else could possibly go wrong? I’m guessing just about anything. Call me paranoid.

— Brian Genest is chairman of the Dracut Republican Town Committee and a member of the Massachusetts Republican State Committee representing the Second Essex and Middlesex District of Andover, Dracut, Lawrence and Tewksbury. ◇

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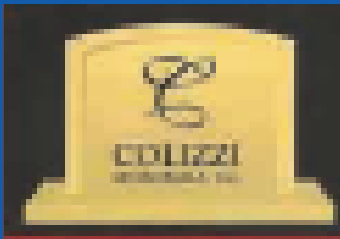
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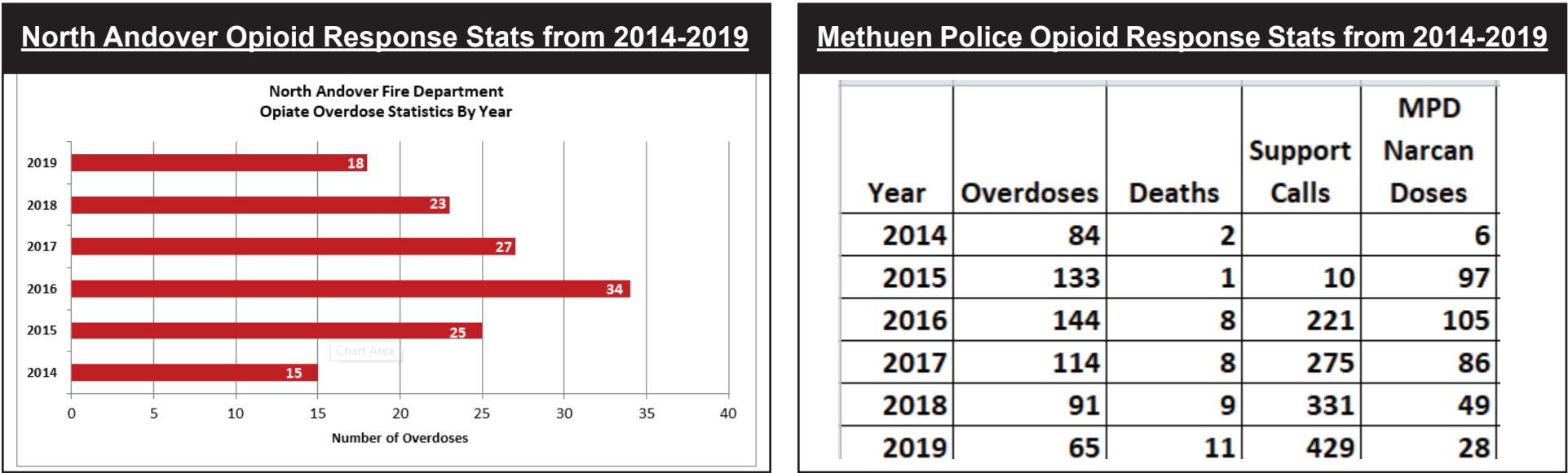


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OPIOIDS: FROM PAGE 4

doing, together with the other communities. So, what we are seeing on the opioid side, part of it is the great work everyone is doing to get education and treatment, long-term treatment. So we have gone down 43% in the calls for service, but a 50% increase in deaths. So, when I look at the numbers, some of the deaths are from people who have used before they go to bed and we find them deceased the next morning. As Chief DeNaro said, we find them in public restrooms as well. We also see in 2017 we had 275 support calls from our community engagement specialists and clinicians. This year as of December 3rd, we had 429. So, it's a 55% increase in the outreach and community engagement. But a lot of that is people coming to ask for help. We've already placed 158 people this year into treatment. I think the deaths are actually the anomaly. As for the crime issues, everyone here is impacted differently.

As Chief DeNaro has said and all the other departments here, we have multiple gang task force meetings. We all have different offices on our team, they're working together with state probation, parole, federal probation and parole, the court system, the intake work, everybody is working together in order to attack this one large problem.

You can't have a Methuen problem, a Haverhill problem, a Boxford problem. Their problems are our problems, although the impact is different. But it's the same players and the same problems moving over the borders. I'm in between Lawrence and Haverhill and I'm impacted very differently in my community by the crime, as they are. Also, we are down officers. We only have 94 officers, while Haverhill has been hiring the last few years, and Lawrence has been hiring and if Methuen doesn't [start] adding officers there is going to be a bigger impact on our citizens.

THE HOMELESS

DUGGAN: Have you guys seen a correlation between the increase in opioid use in the increase in homelessness?

SOLOMON: That's been very difficult. We go out and do our count for the homeless but we do our count every November. So, we keep telling the feds that we have to do the count in the spring because, if you look at my count in November there's almost nobody along the rail trail because they've all gone to shelters in Lawrence.

The count has to be in April or May so I can get a true count of my numbers for homelessness. But we do patrol the rail trail, our officers go out there on foot. They are out there constantly, particularly in the good weather. We interact with them again and again. If we have to get them help they have to go to Lawrence to get them into a shelter because we don't have one in Methuen.

And that's not fair to Lawrence either. All the homeless from all these communities go to one community, Lawrence. Each community does need to do their share in their own way, but nobody wants to take that step to have shelters in their communities. So they're all going to Lawrence.

CHIEF GRAY: We had a camp down there [along the railroad tracks in Sutton St.] a few years ago. It was like a little village of homeless people. We went down and interacted with them. We did make a couple of arrests for people who had warrants, but we basically were there to ask them how can we help you? But, like Chief Solomon said, a lot of times they're going into Lawrence, not just for the services but it puts them closer to the source of the drugs.

Because they are struggling with that addiction, if they're in North Andover, it's going to take them 40 minutes or an hour to walk to the city to get their drugs and use it. But if they are there already, underneath the railroad bridge, on Lowell Street in Lawrence they are right there. So, I think it's a matter of convenience that they go to Lawrence and it's not just for services.

CHIEF RITER: In our town we are not seeing the residual crime from the opioid crisis as much as the other communities. We had our first house break in two years about a month ago. But there's nowhere close for them to buy drugs in Boxford. There's not a lot of restaurants or big monster malls that bring people into Boxford. So, for anybody who doesn't live in a house in our community there's not much there in Boxford to attract them.

What we see is kids who grew up in Boxford who have issues, they are there for a short period of time and they move on. The same thing with families. If the economy turns, they don't stay that long in Boxford, they move to another community. So, people come and go very quickly if they do have a downturn in their luck.

All of our guys are trained with Narcan, however, we probably used 10 doses over the last three or four years. We are having an opioid issue, but it's not as many as the other communities and we are only seeing the legacy people. If you look at the high school kids, we saw the classes from 2011 to 2016 get really banged up on opioids right after high school. But then after 2016 it has really quieted down.

CHIEF DENARO: Opioid deaths, like any deaths, are always reported. But, just

to go back to something that you hit on the head Tom, and you can do 100 shows on homelessness. One of the issues we have is, who do we deal with that are homeless? People who are struggling with alcohol abuse, drug abuse, mental health issues, yet we have a few locations [shelters] where we can take them to.

But, if they've had a problem there before they're not allowed back. If they go in and they smell of booze, they're not allowed in. If they leave early you're suspended from there for three days. You can't go back in.

The other problem is that people don't like to see homelessness and what I mean by that is, there are certain places in Haverhill where the homeless will go in the parking deck to sleep, and people coming in and out for work will call us because they are afraid. So, we will get a call to get them out of there.

The problem we have is that if you're homeless we can't expect you to walk 24 hours a day. I can't tell you, can't sleep somewhere. You have to allow people an opportunity to sleep. Especially when they can't get into a facility for whatever the reason is. Most of the facilities are filled up, especially in the winter when the weather goes under freezing.

Our officers will go out, and anybody who is on the street will be brought into the lobby of the police station. It's not even an option, because we've had people freeze to death, we have found them dead behind dumpsters. So, we mandate they come in and sometimes we have half a dozen people sleeping in our lobby area until 7AM when the sun comes up.

Homelessness is one of the major issues that everybody from San Diego to Miami is dealing with, and nobody has solved it. Nobody anywhere in the country has solved it.

You have to remember especially with things like the opioid crisis, just like with gangs, the preventative things we are doing now, we are not going to see the benefits of those efforts for 8 to 10 years down the road.

It's very difficult to determine if our prevention efforts are a success or not right now. We go out and we talk to the homeless. We talk to the people with opioid problems, and I can tell you from first-hand knowledge that we have met with families that have said 'this is my son's fifth or sixth time going into rehab'.

It's not an issue of just getting them into rehab. Some of these families have literally gone bankrupt trying to save their loved one. It may take half a dozen times of going to rehab before they are success-

ful. But the biggest part of the problem is, if we get to you and we get you squared away and you go right back to the same environment where you came from when you get out of rehab, what do you think is going to happen? They're going right back to the drugs. That's the challenge that we are facing.

CIVILIAN HELP FOR THE POLICE CHIEF SOLOMON:

Back in 2013 we started on a project. By 2015 we had two civilian clinicians full-time and we have tried for the last two years to get a full-time mental health counselor. We've done 420 intakes this year already just from the two civilian individuals who work for us. Prior to having the civilians, back in 2013 it was phone calls to my office where someone says 'my kid overdosed, what do I do'?

I would spend a day, or a day and a half trying to figure out how to get that person help. But, when we brought in the civilians who are trained, they are literally sitting down right away to do the intake, make the phone calls and get them placement if they want to go. So, something that might take me a day and a half, might take them two hours. So we are making huge progress in that area.

DUGGAN: When someone walks into the Methuen police station right now with an addiction problem, what happens?

SOLOMON: They come in, walk up to the window and say they're looking for some help. If one of our clinicians is working they will come right out to help them. If not, the officers will take them in and start the process to get them to the hospital, which is our first step. Then they'll call one of our clinicians in. We've done a good job training officers. The officers can go right to the hospital and start the process.

But, I still think there's a weak link here for us getting people to the hospital. We're much better off than we were two years ago, but we've got to change the law on the 72 hour hold because after that 72 hours they can sign themselves out and then where are they going? They go right back to the drugs and we have to deploy Narcan again and start the process over.

I think when we do the Narcan, that needs to be more than a 72-hour hold. They have to go in for a minimum of 30 days for treatment and not be released until the doctor says so.

Senator DiZoglio has been amazing in this fight. We've all been to the State House to testify on the bills that she has put up on her committee. She is not only a fighter for the addiction problem, but also with the homeless and the mental health issues. With her guidance and her assistance I'm sure this is going to continue to move things forward on that issue but it's going to take time.

I know people don't want civil liberties taken away from them but we have to save these lives. We are much better off now than we were two or three years ago but we're nowhere near where we need to be. ◇





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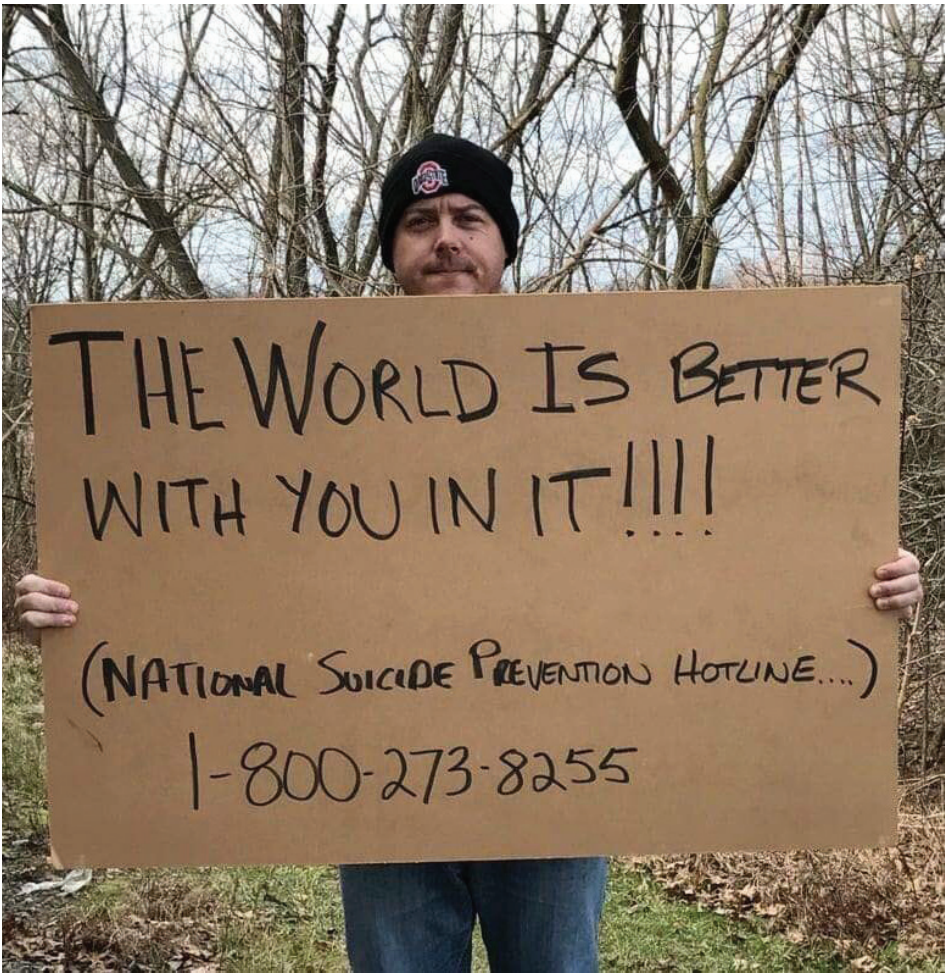




Lawrence City Councilor Marc Laplante State Representative Christia Minicucci and Lawrence City Councilor David Abdoo at the inauguration of the 2020 Lawrence City Council.



Methuen City Councilors being sworn in are: Steve Saba Allie Saffie (back) David Beauregard, Mike Simard (back) Nick DiZoglio, Eunice Zeigler (back) Joel Faretra, and Jessica Finocchiaro.



VALLEY PATRIOT AROUND THE WORLD. While the hosts of the Political TNT Podcast Tom and Nancy Troy were in Saint Maartin they brought along their Valley Patriot, left it on the beach and caught this lovely woman reading the paper a few minutes later so they HAD to get a photo!

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## My Bill On Epinephrine

Hello Valley Patriot Readers,  
Do you have an allergy or know anyone who has a severe allergy to something like, for example, peanuts? The lives of people with this type of life-altering condition cause them to constantly be on alert regarding potential interactions with that allergen - to the point where some cannot even touch the surface of where certain foods were prepared. I have spoken with young parents who are scared to even kiss their babies, after eating a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, because that trace amount could cause the baby to go into anaphylactic shock.



The prevalence of life-threatening allergies among children is on the rise. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have reported that food allergies in children increased by 50 percent between 1997 and 2011. It is estimated that currently 1 in 13 children has a food allergy, and more than 40 percent of those children have experienced a severe allergic reaction.

less loss of life. In effect, families need multiple epinephrine injector packs at any given time, compounding the cost.

Food allergy is the most common cause of anaphylaxis - and although there are eight food groups responsible for about 90 percent of allergic reactions, there are more than 170 different foods that have been reported to trigger an allergic reaction. Given the severity of anaphylaxis, we are fortunate to have a first line of treatment, epinephrine.

Additionally, due to the one-year shelf life of the medication, it must be replaced regularly, regardless of whether it is ever used. This results in parents keeping injectors past their expiration dates because they can't afford new ones. No child should have to die because a caregiver can't afford life-saving medication.

The first modern epinephrine auto-injector, however, EpiPen, has become the poster child for this nation's drug-pricing problem, with prices increasing more than 500 percent over a decade. One 2016 report found that the price of an EpiPen two-pack increased from about \$100 in 2004 to just over \$600 in 2016. The cost of the active ingredient in EpiPen? About \$1.

In response to these exorbitant costs, I recently filed an amendment to legislation, the PACT Act, which mandates that the Center for Health Information Analysis perform an impact analysis on the cost of providing epinephrine injectors to all minors and produce a report by April 2020. We need to get costs down. Price gauging by companies like the manufacturer of EpiPen is nothing short of disgraceful. These pharmaceutical companies need to come clean about the actual cost of production and stop exploiting a child's life-threatening condition to increase their outrageous profit margins. The inclusion of this amendment in the PACT Act, a comprehensive bill focused on prescription drug cost containment and consumer protection, will take us one step closer to providing epinephrine injector coverage for all children of the Commonwealth.

As adults, we have some measure of control over our surroundings. For children, exposure to a potentially fatal allergen can be completely inadvertent. More than 15 percent of school-aged children with food allergies have had a reaction in school. It is critical that epinephrine be available for children with life-threatening allergies at all times and in all environments - at home, at school, with parents and other caregivers - to prevent need-

If you have any questions about this or any other piece of legislation, please feel free to contact me via email at [dizoglio@masenate.gov](mailto:dizoglio@masenate.gov) or phone at (617) 722-1604.  
Yours in service,  
Diana ♦

## ENTREPRENEURS: FROM 2

growth in his company.  
Recently, he created career opportunities for local families, in order to extend the capacity of its operations and provide a broader administrative support. Especially now that its work with NECC has begun.

underserved communities; as Kervin's Town Livery is accomplishing in cities like Lawrence. With access to a fleet that includes a Cadillac Escalade, Mercedes Sprinter Van, and a Limo Party Bus, just to name a few.

Latino-owned businesses rose in revenue from \$258,702 in 2017 to \$327,189 in 2018; an increase of 26.5% according to a study from Biz2Credit. It's this very same demographic that is driving growth and wealth through the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and revitalizing

Thanks to his persistence, continued effort and work ethics, he now has a platform that is placing Lawrence back in the radar within the business community, in a positive light.

For more info about Town Livery: [townliverylimousine.com](http://townliverylimousine.com) ♦

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## 2019: A Year in Review

Rep. Linda Dean Campbell  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

This year has certainly been a trying one for our Nation, and in this time of federal gridlock, the role of State Legislatures has become all the more important. It has been an extraordinarily productive year for the MA House of Representatives, as we have continued to push forward with bold action on the issues affecting our communities.

In Methuen, the legislation I filed with the strong support of the Methuen House delegation and in collaboration with Governor Baker has restructured Methuen's city government by requiring: state oversight until all state loans have been repaid, and the hiring of financial professionals to ensure that the City Council, School Committee, and Mayor are knowledgeable and accountable for every penny spent and every contract issued. The state Inspector General's report that I strongly requested also helped the City to resolve the superior police officers' contract dispute earlier this year.

This year, the House passed legislation to: help Veterans succeed in our public universities; protect youth from smoking addiction; prevent distracted driving caused by cell phone use; protect unions; invest in local road improvement projects; and more. The House also passed a landmark education bill that invests an additional \$1.4 billion in our public K-12 schools and makes major strides toward addressing education inequality across our state. The Merrimack Valley will receive substantial increases in funding under this legislation.

The Legislature also enacted a state budget and supplemental budget that included significant funding for the Merrimack Valley, including earmarks

I secured with the support of the Merrimack Valley delegation: \$300,000 for the Veterans Northeast Outreach Center, \$200,000 to resurface the Methuen High School track, \$50,000 for the Haverhill Vietnam Veterans Memorial, \$50,000 to expand mental health services at Methuen High School, \$100,000 for a new health care facility in Haverhill operated by the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center, \$1.2 million for a young adult recidivism reduction program, and \$50,000 for the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce. In addition to investing in public safety, affordable housing, and nursing homes, the budget raised the state's reserve fund to over \$3 billion, an all-time high that will provide a necessary cushion should we experience a recession in the near future.

It has been a true privilege this year to serve as Chair of the Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs and to support our Veterans and their families through legislation, events, and other initiatives. I was proud to assist with the Veterans' portions of the state budget, which increased funding for social services and included \$1.3 million for Veterans' mental health care through the Home Base Program. For Veterans Day, I shepherded legislation through the House to expand PTSD resources for student Veterans and establish a memorial for historic MA Veteran Deborah Sampson. We have also begun working with Home Base on a statewide suicide prevention campaign that will connect our Veterans to life-saving care right in their own communities.

This year, legislation I filed to notify the public when sewage is spilled into rivers like the Merrimack has made great progress. The bill has received a

CAMPBELL: PAGE 21



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Audit: Department of Transitional Assistance  
Not Protecting Sensitive Client Data

Boston, MA – State Auditor Suzanne M. Bump is calling on the Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) - formerly known as the Welfare Department - to take steps to protect sensitive data about program participants and ensure that it is prepared to confront cyberthreats.

The audit, which examined July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, comes on the heels of an audit of the Department of Revenue that found similar issues.

“The Department of Transitional Assistance provides critical support to some of our state’s most vulnerable low-income residents. However, inappropriate disclosure of sensitive information about these clients could make their already difficult situations much worse. DTA must do more to protect this information,” Bump said. “I’m encouraged by its responses and hope it takes swift action to fully implement our audit recommendations.”

The audit found DTA was not adequately protecting sensitive data from inappropriate access. Auditors found the agency did not revoke terminated employees’ access to its primary database used to determine client eligibility for assistance. Some employees continued to have access to the system for more than three weeks after they were terminated.

Additionally, the audit notes DTA had not fully assessed the IT vulnerabilities facing third-party vendors that have ac-

cess to personally identifiable information (PII), such as Social Security numbers. It also had not tested its plans to respond to IT security incidents. The failure to develop these plans and assess these risks increases the likelihood that sensitive data could be inappropriately accessed or disclosed.

In its responses included in the audit, DTA indicated it was working with the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (EOTSS) to take steps to address the issues identified by Bump. The audit also notes the agency has in place training programs related to the protection of PII.

The audit released to the public is abridged because of the sensitivity of the information contained in the full audit. Consistent with government auditing standards and the Massachusetts public records law, only DTA will receive a full, unabridged copy of the report.

DTA is an agency within the Executive Office Health and Human Services. It administers programs that provide assistance to low-income individuals and families, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC), Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled and Children (EAEDC), and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). It had approximately 1,630 employees during fiscal year 2019.

Inaugural Address  
Mayor Neil P. Perry

Good evening. What a Night!  
What a wonderful night this is... thank you all for being here. I could not be more proud or grateful than I am right now. But, I’m also very realistic.

I was overwhelmed by the support I received in the November election; however, as I’ve told everyone that I’ve met with during this transition period, I’m very aware that 71% of our citizens aren’t in love with Neil Perry. Our city voted for change... for a new mayor... for new councilors... and I believe, for a more positive and constructive local government. That’s the message I heard and that’s the agenda I am bringing with me to City Hall.

As most of you know, I’ve just completed a very fulfilling career at Raytheon. For 38 years I was part of a company that had a clear purpose and high standards.

We all worked toward mutual goals and for the benefit of our customers, our shareholders, and for one another. As I reflected on my career as I left Raytheon for the last time a few weeks ago, I couldn’t help but think that maybe this experience – this new chapter in my life – shouldn’t really be all that different.

As I stand here tonight – with all my colleagues in local government beside me – I can’t help but hope that we too will work together to establish and achieve mutual goals. I hope our intentions will be pure... and I hope our communication will be honest and straightforward. While we don’t call them shareholders, we are all 100 % responsible for delivering the very best results for every resident of this City.

As we start this journey tonight, I hope we’re all committed to working together with mutual respect and with a shared desire to achieve the change our neighbors told us they expect. Since the election, I’ve spoken with every member of the new City Council. I’ve asked for their support when they think I’m right and I’ve encouraged them to vote against my ideas when they think they’re wrong. We won’t always agree – that’s for sure – in fact, we shouldn’t always agree. Honest and respectful debate, based on facts and genuine differences of opinion, will make the results of our work better. That should be our goal. Past political agendas and loyalties should be checked at the door.

Tonight – just as I’ve reached out to each City Councilor – I’m reaching out to every resident of this City.

Tonight, I’m inviting each of you to become a part of this effort to make our City government more positive, more constructive, and more responsive to the needs of every resident. Pay attention to what we’re all doing... come to the meetings or watch them on your television... and don’t hesitate

to get involved.

This is a new beginning and the people of our City deserve our very best efforts.

Just as I gave my all to my corporate responsibilities for nearly 40 years, I can promise every one of you that I plan to give every ounce of energy I have to achieving our goals for all of Methuen.

**Integrity, Leadership, Vision**

During my campaign, I frequently spoke about Integrity, Leadership, and Vision. Those were more than words to me. They were more than a campaign slogan. My personal integrity is everything to me.... It’s the legacy I received from my parents and it’s the most important thing I will leave my children. I would encourage you to challenge my ideas – that will make them better – but I will never do anything that will make you question my integrity.

When it comes to leadership, I want you to know I’m not afraid to lead this community in the direction I feel is best for everyone. I’ve promised to work with everyone – including those who may disagree with me most often – to achieve the very best for our City... for our school system... our business community... and for every family that calls Methuen home.

That’s exactly what I plan to do. As a candidate, I laid out a vision for our city. That vision was a beginning. Over the course of the last few weeks, I have been meeting with elected officials, department heads, the diverse transition committees we assembled from throughout the community, and with countless citizens to discuss expanding that vision for our City. I will shape all that input into a plan that I look forward to sharing with you. We will be transparent, and we will look for constant feedback. As a private sector executive, I’m very accustomed to setting specific goals and being held accountable for the results – government should probably do more of both. Every one of us on this stage applied for a job last year and every one of us should be held accountable for how we perform.

Sadly though, in some ways, Methuen has become a microcosm for the division and negativity that seems to have taken over our country. People’s intentions are questioned before their ideas are even understood. If someone disagrees, they’re personally attacked. You may not always agree with my vision for our community – just as I might not always agree with yours. However, I hope we’ll all listen. I hope we’ll all try to understand where each of us is coming from. And, I hope we’ll all respect that fact that we’re all trying to do the very best for our community.

**Community Pride, Facts & Data, and Action & Results**

CAMPBELL: PAGE 21

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PERRY: FROM PAGE 18

As I embark on this new chapter in my life, I want to focus on three themes this evening... Community Pride, Facts & Data, and Action & Results. Don't worry, although I could speak on each of these themes for a long time, tonight I want to share some simple thoughts and examples of what I'm talking about.

**Community Pride** – It sounds so simple, but I think it warrants some real discussion. I believe that every person who lives in this City wants to be proud of where they live. While that likely means very different things to different people, that overarching goal should always be on the mind of those of us who are responsible for leading this community. Allow me to share a few things that I think impact how we measure our personal pride in our community...

- The city should be clean and pleasant to drive around. It starts with clean streets, well-kept public buildings and common spaces, and perhaps more flowers and beautiful trees.

- Our parks and recreation facilities should be well managed, open, safe and friendly places for the community to enjoy.

- The city should be governed by women and men who treat one another with respect. City Council meetings – even when there's disagreement – should look like a gathering of professionals who are genuinely working toward a common goal.

- Our schools should be places of learning and community engagement – places where administrators, teachers, parents, and students are all working for excellence, inclusion, and achievement.

- Municipal and school finances should be well managed. Every expenditure – including every contract – should be transparent and understandable.

- Our communications – including our website and social media outreach – should be userfriendly and informative.

- We should respect our history – we should preserve the legacy of the treasures left to us by the likes of Searles, Tenney, and Nevins. The uniqueness of our City – with its granite walls and majestic buildings, is an asset that we should protect and highlight.

- And, every interaction between our citizens and our public officials and everyone who works for us, should be professional, helpful and service-oriented.

Achieving these things and more will contribute to genuine community pride. It's simple and yet it's also complex. Some of these are easy... others are tougher. Some can happen quickly... others will take more time and greater resources. Together, we need to instill a genuine sense of community pride throughout our City. But, building 'community' isn't just about what our government can do, it's really about what we all can do. Once again, I'd like to invite you to do your part. We all know that the difference between a house and a home is the people who live in it. I don't think a City is all that different. Making our City a true 'Community' requires everyone to get involved – to become invested in 4 some way. The City has a number of volunteer Boards and Commissions – we're planning to update our recruitment efforts and I assure you your interest will be seriously considered. As a candidate, I had an opportunity to see several groups and individuals who are doing their part to help build a community that we can all be proud of. Let me share three examples...

- When I visited Methuen Village, I had the honor of meeting a lovely woman named Theresa Skorupka. Terry is 98 years old and is a WWII veteran. She got married in 1945 and was married for 60 years. As I listened to her, I became enthralled with her story... in her personal journey from her experience as a young woman in WWII to her life today at 98 years young. I'm honored to have Theresa here with us this evening.

- I'd also like to introduce you to Michael Gorman. Michael is the founder of The Family Movement – commonly known as TMF. It's an outstanding organization of primarily young people who have dedicated themselves to helping the less fortunate in our community. The work of these young people – especially their mission to feed and support those who are homeless – is truly inspiring.

- Finally, Linda Harvey devotes her time and effort to serving those in need through Debbie's Treasure Chest. In 2007, three adopted children - two of whom are Linda's daughters Maxine and Talia Harvey, started DTC by collecting toys for foster children. What started as a small project in their garage has grown over the years, and under Linda's guidance is now a major nonprofit organization providing clothing and school supplies to thousands of people at over 7 locations, in addition to running drives for coats, school uniforms, and holiday toys.

Her dedication to the Methuen community and to those in need throughout the Merrimack Valley is admirable.

These are three examples of people who are living their lives each day in a way that helps make this a City a true community. They are each unique, yet powerful examples of the fact that while government certainly needs to do its part – and we will – each of us can play a role in making Methuen the very best that it can be.

**Facts and Data** – During the campaign, I became known as the 'fact and data candidate.' I thought I'd take a moment to share what that means to me. First, let me tell you what it doesn't mean. It doesn't mean that I'm not moved by emotion or that I don't appreciate the passion that some bring to their causes. I see that in those, such as the folks at MAN, Inc. who are fighting to prevent drug and gang activity in their neighborhoods. I see it in those who give their time and personal resources to feed the homeless and disadvantaged. I see it in those who work to clean and preserve the beauty and sustainability of the Merrimack River.

And, I see it in the parents and volunteers who work tirelessly to maintain first-class athletic programs for our young people. These are only a few examples. I'm passionate about a lot of things... but I don't plan to make decisions based on emotion.

However, it's readily apparent to me – and I hope to all of you – that we've made far too many decisions based on emotion, political relationships, and way too little information. In addition, our civil discourse – as sadly illustrated by Facebook – is often riddled with innuendo, baseless or at best incomplete statements of fact, and unnecessary and hurtful personal attacks. That type of dialogue plainly fails to contribute in any way to the betterment of our community or to the quality of our deliberations and decision-making. So, I'm going to try something different.

I'm going to present my ideas based on facts. I'm going to share those facts – and any related data – with the City Council, the School Committee, and with the public.

I'll defend my understanding of those facts and I'll readily concede when I might be wrong. In the short-term, let me share some areas where I think we need to work together based on facts and data...

- We're a \$161 million business that's currently trying to function without leadership in several critical areas of our government. Just to name a few, we have no Human Resources Director, no permanent Public Works Director, no City Engineer, no Health Director, and no Information Technology leadership. While I'm certainly not interested in building an unnecessary bureaucracy, my management experience tells me we have some critical deficiencies that are limiting our ability to properly manage our workforce and serve the needs of

Two Former Pharmacists at New England Compounding Center Sentenced in Connection with 2012 Fungal Meningitis Outbreak

BOSTON – Two former verification pharmacists at New England Compounding Center (NECC) have been sentenced in federal court in Boston for violating the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA).

Michelle L. Thomas, 35, of Cumberland, R.I., was sentenced today by U.S. District Court Judge Richard G. Stearns to one year of probation. Last month, Judge Stearns sentenced Kathy S. Chin, 47, of Canton, to two years of probation. In May 2019, Thomas and Chin were convicted by a federal jury of two and four felony counts, respectively, of dispensing drugs without valid prescriptions with the intent to defraud or mislead government regulators and customers.

NECC, a licensed pharmacy, routinely dispensed drugs in bulk without valid prescriptions. Chin and Thomas served as verification pharmacists, signing off on drug orders prior to shipment to customers. Chin was convicted of approving shipments of drugs for patients with names such as Flash Gordon, Long John, Tony Tiger, Chester Cheeto, Dale Earnhardt, Tom Brokaw, Jon Stewart, Jay Leno, David Letterman, and Dick Van Dyke, among others. Thomas was convicted of approving shipments of drugs for patients with names such as L.L. Bean, Filet O'Fish, Rug Doctor, Squeaky Wheel,

Dingo Boney, Coco Puff, and Harry Potter, among others.

Chin and Thomas dispensed these and other bulk orders of prescription drugs with the intent to defraud and mislead state and federal government regulators. Specifically, NECC repeatedly took steps to shield its operations from regulatory oversight by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) by claiming to be a pharmacy dispensing drugs pursuant to valid, patient-specific prescriptions. The jury heard evidence that the fake prescriptions, along with numerous other bulk drug orders, approved by Chin and Thomas allowed NECC to operate as an unregulated drug manufacturer.

In June 2017, Barry Cadden, the former owner and head pharmacist for NECC, was sentenced to nine years in prison and three years of supervised release after being convicted of racketeering, racketeering conspiracy, mail fraud, and introduction of misbranded drugs into interstate commerce with the intent to defraud and mislead. In January 2018, Glenn Chin, NECC's former supervisory pharmacist, was sentenced to eight years in prison and two years of supervised release after being convicted of 77 counts. In total, 13 NECC defendants have been convicted of 178 charges.

our people.

- The greatest financial risk to our City is an unresolved police contract and we can't even all agree on the basic numbers that would help us consider the actual financial impact of that agreement or its long-term risk to our financial sustainability. I look forward to finding common ground on these facts and am anxious to have our legal team fully brief the City Council on the status of this challenge. We must find a solution to this problem if we're going to move forward.

- I've called for the creation of a Budget and Revenue Task Force so that we can consider the financial goals and objectives of our community over at least a three-year period. In addition to building a budget for the next fiscal year, I look forward to establishing a process that will look at our financial picture over a more prudent and forward-looking time horizon.

- And, as I've already alluded to, one of the things I hear a lot about is the poor condition of our city... the cleanliness of our streets, the condition of our public buildings, and status of our parks and recreations facilities. I couldn't agree more.

In each of these instances and many more, we need to evaluate the facts, establish clear goals, and work to invest in making the kind of decisions responsible management of a \$161 million business deserves and requires.

**Actions and Results** – Finally, I want to share a few thoughts about actions and results. From my perspective, the best example of this is the center of our City. Over the years, we have invested financial and human resources to produce countless studies and assessments of our 6 downtown – as a community we've received countless recommendation.

We've raised the hopes of our businesses only to disappoint them with inaction. We have files and bookcases of what I assume are good ideas... creative approaches... and more than one vision for the needs of our community. I want to make Methuen a destination... a place people want to invest in... a place business wants to grow in and move to. In the words of one of our transition team members, "We need to make Methuen 'cool' again."

Personally, I don't want to spend more

time and resources writing reports and studies that don't produce meaningful and actionable results. I want to support the efforts of our Community and Economic Development team to move Methuen forward. In that regard, I've said I want to recruit a first-class business – such as Wegmans or Trader Joe's – to open in our City.

As we look to the future of The Loop and other areas in our City, I want us to think big and I want us to be aggressive. We may or may not succeed in these recruitment efforts – but we're going to do everything in our power to try. By the way, you can play an important role in helping us advance this goal. If you agree with me that Methuen is ready for a Wegmans or a Trader Joe's, visit their websites and tell them. We want them to know that our community is ready and willing to support them. We need to expand our commercial tax base.

My message is clear, Methuen is open for business. I promise a city government that will be responsive, friendly, and efficient. We will be a responsible partner with anyone who will benefit our City and our residents. To support this effort, I plan to invite our business community to come together for regular communication with me – with one another – and with our city officials.

I'm excited for this engagement and I look forward to working to produce results that strengthen the economic future of our City.

Conclusion

Let me wrap up with this thought. Methuen is a very different place than it was in 1979 when I started my first job as a bilingual teacher at the Corliss School. I walked into that classroom with limitless energy, enthusiasm, and hope for myself and for my students. It may sound corny, but I loved Methuen then and I love Methuen today. That's exactly why this very morning – at this time in my life -when I should be kicking back and enjoying my retirement – I walked into City Hall with the same energy, enthusiasm, and hope than I did on that day so long ago. Let's work together. Let's respect one another. Let's be honest with each other. Most importantly, let's make every person proud to call Methuen home. Thank you very much.



# Candace Sloane’s Medical Board Opposes Harm Reduction & Wants Patients Dead

Bharani Padmanabhan, MD, PhD  
MEDICAL CORRUPTION COLUMNIST

The Massachusetts press loyally serves as the swamp stenographer and is a reliable cheerleader for the government’s fake narratives and outright lies. It is as predictable as the Washington Post and NY Times whitewashing murderous sex-slave raping jihadis as scholars and mourners.

Brad Petrishen and the Worcester Telegram are perfect examples. Inevitably, neither exposed Troopergate and left it to Turtle Boy Sports to investigate.

On Christmas Day 2019 the Telegram gleefully announced, “Milford doctor’s license revoked over opioid prescriptions” and reported with satisfaction on the medical board’s contempt for the principle of Harm Reduction. Rejoice! We are authorized to report that the War on Opioids is within measurable distance of its end!

The truth is more banal and horrible. Turns out Dr. Eugene Jagella is a pain doctor who provided correct care to his patients, many of whom were some of “the neediest in the community.” His patients included some who suffer from Opioid Use Disorder, meaning they must be on safe prescribed opioids to prevent them from dying from street fentanyl.

The federal government has released data for years proving that patients denied medical care are forced to seek relief from street dealers and die, which they would not otherwise. Board Chair Candace Sloane and her medical board have now thrown Dr. Jagella’s patients onto the street and deprived them of compassionate legitimate medical care that they were statutorily entitled to under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

And why did Candace’s board destroy Dr. Jagella? Because a nurse practitioner complained that Dr. Jagella had prescribed “dangerously high levels of medication, including opioids.” The medical board’s support for nurse practitioners over doctors is explicit.

The board’s salaried staff, with not one medical degree between the lot, declared that prescribing 200mg of OxyContin daily was “excessive.” Oxy, it comes in 80mg tablets for a reason. And the patients were just fine.

Even worse, “Jagella also prescribed opiates to a person with a history of heroin addiction “allegedly” to keep him from using heroin, McGrath found, something the investigator said should not have been done.”

Chief Magistrate Edward B. McGrath, “wrote that he came away convinced that Jagella “cares about his patients and acted in what he believed were their best interests” but because Candace’s board declared that practicing Harm Reduction



“should not have been done” the Magistrate was compelled to rule against a good physician.

So, Candace’s board is on record declaring that persons with Opioid Use Disorder must be thrown onto the street to die from street fentanyl. The Massachusetts medical board is on record that if a doctor practices Harm Reduction and prevents deaths from street fentanyl, the board will destroy him.

The Massachusetts medical board is as anti-medicine and anti-science as Lysenko. It is heartless, cold, sociopathic, evil. It is also totally contrary to the position of all addiction specialists and patients.

Massachusetts has numerous experienced professionals, such as Leo Beletsky at Northeastern, who have been advocating for Harm Reduction with both hard data and common sense. The Massachusetts ACLU has taken many jails and sheriffs to court and prevailed under the ADA to prevent precisely what Candace’s board has done to Dr. Jagella’s poor patients. We must ensure that the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine must not receive even one cent from the various opioid court settlements.

The fish rots from the head down, and this latest destruction of a compassionate, knowledgeable physician who worked hard to keep his patients alive and away from harm, perfectly reflects the impact of non-clinician Candace Sloane’s illegal seven consecutive years as Board Chair.

And the Telegram cheered loudly. When Dr. Jagella’s patients die from street fentanyl, decent human beings must hold the state board and Candace Sloane personally responsible for their preventable death, and question why the Telegram newspaper is still alive. ♦

## Your Health with Rick Bellanti

Rick Bellanti  
HEALTH & WELLNESS COLUMNIST

Happy New Year everyone. We made it through another year, whether we stuck to our New Year’s resolution last year or not, we are still here (if you are reading this). The question you need to ask is are we in better health than we were last year at this time? If you are, congratulations for sticking it out and continuing with your healthier lifestyle. If not, have no fear as this is the time of year most of us start back up again. A new year and a blank slate, to start new goals and complete old ones that you are continuing.



Back in 2018 people started really pushing the Keto diet and it hit an all-time high in 2019. I myself have actually been doing a revised version of a Keto diet the last 90 days and have had some success, so I wanted to pass some information along to those that are curious, like I was. At first, the posts I was reading on social media about Keto diets were so confusing, so much so, that I didn’t want anything to do with it. As I learned more about it, I decided to take the information that I learned and adapt it to my lifestyle. You have to keep in mind there are so many diets out there, and you have to find the one that will work for you and adjust it as you need to, to help you stick with it.

Where did the Keto diet come from? In the early 1900s, doctors used the Keto fasting diet to control seizures in patients with epilepsy. This type of fasting encourages the body to burn ketones instead of sugar, a process that proved effective for treating epilepsy in children and adults. A doctor by the name of Dr. Russell Wilder at the Mayo Clinic in 1923 designed what is now known as the classic Keto diet, which measures four parts fat for every one-part protein and carbohydrate. All other Keto diets are based on this four-to-one macro nutrient ratio. The classic Keto diet follows a nutritional plan composed of 90% fats, 6% proteins, and 4% carbohydrates.

So, what is a Keto diet anyway? Keto comes from the word Ketones; Ketones are produced when you eat very few carbohydrates or very few calories. The Keto diet is a very low carbohydrate, higher fat intake diet, it’s similar in many ways to other low carbohydrate diets. While you eat far fewer carbohydrates on a Keto diet, you increase your intake of fat which allows the body to produce small fuel molecules called “ketones.” That sounds a little misleading after all these years of people saying we are fat because we eat too much fat, then everything became Low Fat food diets. The reduction in carbohydrate intake puts your body in a metabolic state called Ketosis, where fat from your diet and from your body, is burned for energy.

When the body produces these ketones, it enters a metabolic state called ketosis. The fastest way to get to being ketosis is by fasting (not eating anything for a long period of time) but you cannot fast forever (nor are we meant to). A few months back I had a column about intermittent fasting throughout the day. My lifestyle change now has incorporated both intermittent fasting and a form of Keto diet. (Low to

almost no carbohydrates but added fats and proteins). I found it works for me and I don’t feel like I’m on some crazy fad diet.

And I will add, these last 90 days my energy has been through the roof. I’m no longer always tired or sluggish, nor am I craving sugary foods. It has brought my A1C sugar tests down to where my doctor is thinking of taking me off medications

soon. So, for me eating fewer carbohydrates and adding in more fats and proteins has been effective in losing weight and improving my Type II Diabetes.

A true ketogenic diet for weight loss contains 80% fat, fewer than 5% carbs, and 15-20% protein. To achieve these percentages, dieters must get rid of carbohydrate-heavy food groups, including grains, dairy, beans, and fruits high in sugar, and load up on meat, fish, butter, eggs, avocados, oils, nuts, seeds and non-starchy vegetables. As we know eating greater amounts of protein while on the Keto diet might help keep your hunger at bay.

So, what foods can you eat? A few of my staples are olive oil, butter, coconut oil, a little cheese, red meat, fish, lots of eggs, vegetables that grow above the ground, such as zucchini, eggplant, broccoli, peppers and avocados. Nuts and seeds (find my article a few months back on the health benefits of adding nuts in your diet – October 2019). Lots of water, coffee (no sugar) unsweetened tea and red wine (in moderation)

What foods are not good on a Keto diet? Foods that a high in Carbs and definitely not good for Type II diabetics, my rule is easy: Nothing white! No bananas (yes, they are white on the inside), no bread, flour or wheat, pasta, rice of any kind (yes, including brown), no potatoes, no sugar or sweets of any kind - no sodas, energy drinks or fruit juices.

When following a Keto diet, your body switches its fuel supply to run mostly on the fat intake, burning fat in your body all day and night. When sugar levels become very low, fat burning can increase dramatically. It becomes easier to access your fat stores to burn them off. It is amazing if you are trying to lose weight but with the added benefit of making you less hungry between meals and steady increased energy throughout the day. This will help keep you alert and focused, it also helps reduce inflammation in your body caused by high blood sugar. This I know is true for me as I have felt these extra benefits firsthand these last 90 days since I started adding Keto lifestyle to my diet.

When beginning a diet, some people get highly motivated and push themselves to their limits. Be careful not to push yourself too hard doing a Keto diet, give your body time to adjust, or this could lead to burning out and giving up quickly. Since its beginning, the Keto diet has been effective for raising energy levels, lowering weight, and increasing quality of life. Like any other diet and exercise program, it’s up to you to keep it going long-term. Happy New Year!

Rick Bellanti is a wellness columnist and is on a journey himself to lose 240lbs and has lost 160lbs since the start of 2015. You can find Rick on Facebook at: Getting Healthy with Rick Bellanti ♦

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TEEN TALK with ABBY

My Experience at My First Ever Presidential Candidate Town Hall/Rally

On a cold and windy November night, over a hundred people, myself included, gathered into the small entrance of Salem NH’s high school. The room was full of lively chatter and excitement as we were all checked in and moved into the auditorium. After a few introductions, the real star of the show came out to speak to us all. Democratic presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg strolled out onto the stage, smiling and waving at the excited audience, ready to answer some questions.

This is the first time I have ever been to a presidential candidate’s event. This coming year, I will be turning 18, which means that I am now given a chance to vote. Ever since I was a little girl, I have always looked forward to being able to vote in elections and participating in all that comes with it, so finally getting the chance to go to an event like this town hall with Mayor Pete was a chance I could not miss. What caught me off guard about Pete is how different he is compared to the other candidates. He is a much more conservative Democrat in terms of policies. For example, one of the main questions he was asked was about healthcare, and if he wants Medicare for all. Pete responded with, “Sure, I’ll give Medicare for all... if you want it!” He went on to explain that if you like your current health plans, then feel free to keep them. It doesn’t mean that they’re forgoing to be better than his Medicare plan, but it does mean that it happens to suit you better than his plan does. I think that is one of the most

appealing things about this candidate. I prefer somebody like Pete because of one main reason. I feel that he believes that equality is not giving everybody the same thing, it is about giving people what they need to be at the same level, and that is a genuinely excellent idea to have.

My experience at this town hall was a great one. Besides all the fun signs and swag that I got or even the fact that I got to see Pete Buttigieg, I was able to grasp a better sense of how important it is for people to educate themselves on their candidates. After hearing what Pete had to say during the town hall, I made an informed decision that he is the candidate that I think has the policies best fit for my needs as a young adult in this country. Many people vote for a candidate simply because they seem popular or that are in the area they live and it isn’t socially acceptable to vote for somebody else. They’re ashamed to go against what other people want them to do. I know this happened to a family member of mine during the 2016 election. Especially right now, with such a surge of young, hopeful power in this country, I think it should be every American’s duty to take some time out of their day to inform themselves. They need to carefully consider the people they could potentially be voting for are and what they stand for. My experience at the town hall will forever be an experience to remember, and I hope that everyone can get the chance to experience something like this too. ♦



HERO: FROM PAGE 1

cer, Massachusetts, he made the decision to become a Catholic Priest.

One of his more interesting assignments as a priest, was ministering to Quechua Indians in Peru. The tribe was so remote, that Father Broderick often traveled by horseback while serving the tribe. Recently, at the age of 93, he had the opportunity to ride again at the Myopia Hunt Club. He also served at many local parishes, including Sacred Heart in Haverhill, MA, Our Lady of the Presentation in Brighton, MA and Immaculate Conception Parish in Newburyport, MA Although he grew up as an only child, his room at Regina Cleri, is covered with photos of the dozens of families he ministered to during his career as a priest.

Interviewing him, I learned that one of the most remarkable traits this man has is; the humbleness he displayed when discussing his life; as an airman, a college student, a banker, and a priest. During World War II all the 16.5 million men and women who served faced danger, and the prospect of dying at a young age. The risk was particularly high in bomber crews in the European Theater and submarine crews in the Pacific Theater. Father Broderick talked to me about his bombing missions over Nazi Germany with the same demeanor and with the same ease, as

he did during our discussion of his duties serving in a parish in Newburyport, Massachusetts. Truly a “hero in our midst”.

Please join us at the Dracut American Legion on RT 113 in Dracut, on February 15th, 2020, at 7pm as we pay tribute to US Marine Corp Veteran’s Phil and Don Everly with a free concert highlighting their music. Family event, with no admission.

The Dracut American Legion asks all World War II and Korean War Veterans to call 603-518-5368 and sign up for an Honor Flight to the Memorials in Washington DC!

John Cuddy served in the US Navy’s Construction Battalions (known as the Seabees) after retiring from the Navy; he earned a bachelor’s in history and a master’s in economics from the University of Massachusetts on the Lowell Campus. He has been employed in Logistics at FedEx for the last 22 years. If you know a World War II veteran who would like their story told, please email him at John.Cuddy@Yahoo.com. ♦



CAMPBELL: FROM 16

favorable vote from the Environment Committee and now awaits a vote on the House floor. It benefits from the bipartisan support of legislators and the determination of many Merrimack Valley leaders, as was demonstrated by our kayak trip down the Merrimack River this past summer.

Our region has seen a lot of growth this year, including the grand opening of UTEC’s Haverhill site, the announcement of a New Balance factory in Methuen slated for operation in 2020, the expansion of the Bradford Rail Trail, and the completion of the Methuen Rail Trail, all of which received state support. I also worked with our delegation and the state Department of Transportation

(MassDOT) to make serious headway regarding the Bradford train station – MassDOT is now actively pursuing plans to relocate the station and has set aside funding in their Capital Investment Plan to do so.

I look forward to another year advocating for our Veterans and for the projects and issues that matter to you. I wish you abundant health and happiness as we enter the New Year.

State Representative Linda Dean Campbell represents the cities of Methuen and Haverhill in the State Legislature and serves as House Chair of the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs. She can be reached at Linda.Campbell@mahouse.gov or (617) 722-2380. ♦

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TV TALK with BILL CUSHING



My Best TV Shows of 2019

Bill Cushing  
VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST

It's that time of year again. That time when all TV people start thinking about the best shows that they watched over the past year. As usual, it was tough to leave some shows off the list, but here are my picks for the best TV had to offer in 2019.

**Game of Thrones (HBO)** – The much-maligned series finale of 'Game of Thrones' overshadowed what a good final season it was overall. Even when not at its best, Game of Thrones was better than most of what's on. As always, it was the best-looking series on TV, with great performances all around.

**The Morning Show (Apple TV+)** – Apple's first foray into the streaming wars is this series about the behind the scenes drama of a network morning news show when the male anchor, played by Steve Carell, is accused of sexual harassment. Jennifer Aniston gives the best performance of her career as Carell's on-air partner. Reese Witherspoon also stars as Carell's replacement.

**Jane The Virgin (CW)** – Gina Rodriguez, as the title character, delivered one of the year's most heartfelt performances in this sweet show. The final season tugged at our heartstrings even more than it usually did every year and gave us a beautifully satisfying finale.

**Schitt's Creek (Pop)** – This series was episode after episode of hilarious entertainment. Created by Dan and Eugene Levy, 'Schitt's Creek' has continued to grow into a touching and thoughtful sitcom.

**Billions (Showtime)** – Paul Giamatti and Damien Lewis continue to light up the screen in Showtime's top-notch financial drama series. Season 4 was a masterclass in acting. Supporting players Maggie Siff, David Costabile, and Jeffrey DeMunn were fabulous.

**Russian Doll (Netflix)** – Natasha Lyonne created and stars in this very creative and intelligent Netflix series about a woman who relives her birthday over and over. Incidentally, this is also the day of her death. She will continue to relive the day until she can find out how to stop it. 'Russian Doll' was a true testament to the power of second chances.

**The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel (Prime)** – Amazon's delightful series continues to be a pleasure to watch. Rachel Brosnahan, Tony Shalhoub, and Alex Borstein deliver great comedic performances as usual.

**Mindhunter (Netflix)** – The wait for season 2 of 'Mindhunter' was almost 2 years, but it was worth it. The second season was equally gripping and even more disturbing centering on the Atlanta child murders of the 70s and early 80s.

**The Affair (Showtime)** – Showtime's drama started out as a critical smash, but faded in many people's minds. I've always been a fan, and this 5th and final season didn't disappoint. While it was a bit uneven at times, it gave us some of the best acting on TV this year. Dominic West and Maura Tierney turned in some of the finest work of their careers, and it had one of the better and most memorable series finales in recent memory.

**The Deuce (HBO)** – The performances of James Franco and Maggie Gyllenhaal were among the best TV had to offer this year. Don't let the subject matter of 'The Deuce' scare you off. This drama series from the creators of 'The Wire' about the rise of pornography in American culture was incredible TV.

**Unbelievable (Netflix)** – In this age of tons of true crime programming, Netflix's 'Unbelievable' stands out. Merritt Weaver and Toni Collette were very impressive in this riveting miniseries. It was the most engaging and emotionally wrenching drama on TV this year.

My pick for the best show of the year is...

**Succession (HBO)** – HBO's superb series about the dysfunctional Roy family stepped up its game in season 2. The cast solidified itself as the best ensemble on TV, and gave us the year's best end-of-season cliffhanger.

Also, in consideration.... Veep (HBO), Killing Eve (BBC), City on a Hill (Showtime), The Good Doctor (ABC), A Million Little Things (ABC), The Unicorn (CBS), Animal Kingdom (TNT), Bosch (Prime), Goliath (Prime), Star Trek: Discovery (CBS All Access), Sneaky Pete (Prime), On Becoming A God In Central Florida (Showtime), Orange Is the New Black (Netflix), Catastrophe (Prime), The Righteous Gemstones (HBO), Barry (HBO), Watchmen (HBO).



If you have any questions about TV, you can email me at BillsTVPatTalk@gmail.com. I will answer all of your questions and will feature some of the questions I receive in a future Mailbag column. Follow me on Twitter @Bill-

sTVPatTalk and on Facebook at BillsTVPatTalk for daily up-to-the-minute TV news and discussion. ♦



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# 2020 Vision

Peter Larocque  
RELIGION COLUMNIST

Happy New Year’s everybody! You will probably hear this line many times throughout the coming new year, so let me be among the first!

The New Year of 2020 Vision, so what does 2020 vision really mean? “Normal” vision is 20/20. This means that the test subject sees the same line of letters at 20 feet that a person with normal vision sees at 20 feet.

As good as this is in the natural sense, my prayer for all of you is that in the coming year of 2020 that you will have supernatural vision that surpasses normal vision!

We just finished celebrating Christmas, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and according to Luke 2:8-12, we read the following, “And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. 10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. 12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.”

The angel of the Lord told them that they would find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger and this would be a sign unto them. A sign is there for one purpose only, which is to be seen! This particular sign, a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and in a manger declared by the angel was how the shepherds would know that this was Christ the Lord. A manger is actually a feeding trough for livestock. It is basically a big rectangular block of stone with the trough hewn out of it. So, baby Jesus, who was wrapped in swaddling clothes, was placed in such a stone trough. These were the humble beginnings of our Lord here on earth.

This would not be the last time we would read in the scriptures concerning our Lord being wrapped in linen. After the death of Jesus on the cross, we read in Mark 15, 43-46, the following, “Joseph of Arimathaea, an honourable counselor, which also waited for the kingdom of God, came, and went in boldly unto Pilate, and craved the body of Jesus. 44 And Pilate marveled if he were already dead: and calling unto him the centurion, he asked him whether he had been any while dead. 45 And when he knew it of the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. 46 And he bought fine linen, and took him down, and wrapped him in the linen, and laid him in a sepulcher which was hewn out of a rock, and rolled a stone unto the

door of the sepulcher.” The sepulcher, the tomb, the place where the dead body of Jesus was laid is very much similar to the manger which he was laid in at his birth. But the difference would be that the dead body of Jesus in this stone tomb would not hold him for long. Three days later the tomb was empty!

This sign of the empty tomb is for all to see. But only those with supernatural vision see that it is empty! Having supernatural vision comes to those who choose to make Jesus Lord of their life and become born- again!

Look at Romans 10:8-10, “But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; 9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

Romans 10:13, goes on to say, “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

The word of faith which we preach is how we are to live this Christian life. According to Romans 1:17, The believer, the one made just, is to live by faith. Being a part of the family of God doesn’t mean that we all have to go to Jerusalem and see the empty tomb for ourselves,

no not at all. After all, we read in 2 Corinthians 5:7, “(For we walk by faith, not by sight :)” So what am I saying? What I am saying is that Faith is the believer’s perfect 2020 vision!

Here is another verse of Scripture that speaks to what is seen and what is not seen. We find it in 2 Corinthians 4:18, “While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.” The empty tomb is eternal!

One doesn’t need Faith, 2020 vision to believe what is seen, but it does take Faith, 2020 vision to believe what is not seen and Eternal! The things you see before you, they are temporal, they aren’t going to last forever. But that which you don’t see, by Faith, 2020 vision, that shall last forever!

In conclusion, let’s not hold so tightly in the new year to the things we see going on around us in this world. But let’s hold fast with Faith, 2020 vision the things which are Eternal, that which shall last forever!

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is coming back real soon. So, let’s allow that to be our guide of our thoughts and decision making in the New Year!

Happy New Year! The Year of 2020 Vision!

Love to all of you!  
Peter Larocque  
peterlarocque@hotmail.com ♦

## BENEATH THE SURFACE

### Resolutions & Disappointments

Paul Murano  
VALLEY PATRIOT MORALITY COLUMNIST

New Year’s resolutions are common but often not all that successful. It makes you wonder why: If people are resolved to change a bad habit and replace it with something good, why is there such a poor success rate? The answer to this question lies at the heart of anthropology, psychology, and theology.

Isn’t a person’s will power enough to allow one to change lifestyle to a healthier and happier one? Experience tells us the answer is no. Compare the local gym the week after New Year’s Day with the gym a month later. You see the initial zeal and desire, but not the perseverance. Will power alone does not enable one to successfully persevere and overcome deeply ingrained habits.

The human being is a creature of habit. That is why it is so important to develop good habits. How many other animals are mired in bad habits... obsessed with food, drugs, alcohol, sex, etc.? Only the human being has the ability to live contrary to his nature and against his own good.

Habits mold one’s character and lifestyle. They are either virtues or vices. Virtues lead to positive growth and integral fulfillment, while vices lead to wasted time and poor health (physical, mental, and/or spiritual).

We know vices impede life, and that they can easily develop into obsessions and addictions. Yet, as already noted, even the person of good will who wants to transform his vices into virtues can’t seem to do it alone. Vices become like little pits of quicksand from which one cannot seem to rescue oneself.

From a theological perspective, this is because original sin weakens our

nature and gives us concupiscence – the tendency to sin. We know that choosing what is bad is irrational on a variety of levels; yet we choose it anyway. Once we delve into the vice, it is not easy to get out.

Twelve-step secular programs initiated by Alcoholics Anonymous acknowledge that one must depend on a higher power to be rescued from vice, obsession, and addiction. These programs reflect the age-old Christian claim that we need a Savior, that we cannot save ourselves from the mire of sin into which we’ve got ourselves. Christ came with a similar message: Choose to overcome your sins and vices and I will give you the means to do it. He does not command the impossible. As He states metaphorically: He is the vine, we are the branches, and His Father is the vine grower. The supernatural life (of grace) necessary to overcome sin and live life to its fullest is found in union with Him. When we live in vice, however, we spiritually die, being cut off from that Vine.

If we want to overcome those self-inflicted obstacles (vice) that hinder fullness of life – before we renew our gym membership we better first renew our relationship with God. We can’t drive a car without gas, or be physically fit without food. So too the human spirit has little chance to persevere in our resolutions of virtue without grace.

*Paul is talk host of ‘Beneath the Surface’ radio and video podcasts, teaches college philosophy and theology, is a staff writer and producer. Check out Paul’s website at Paulmurano.com and email: PJDM@aol.com.*



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Andrew M & Anne H Poling, Torrey Shilieto & William Polk, \$330,000, 30 Bancroft Rd  
Matthew J & Joy T Bausemer, James A & Laura D Danner, \$557,400, 96 Cross St  
William H & Janelle D Douglas, Michael & Debra Morrissey, \$420,000, 54 Lowell St  
Eleanor A Sapienti, Ciara I Dimou, \$375,000, 23 Summer St Unit 3  
Fleming Avenue Andover LLC, Srinivasa Bhaskara Sridhara & Purna Nambiar Haridasan, \$851,995, 35 Fleming Ave  
Michael D & Deborah L Roux, Eva Cabo Baigorri & Roberto S Gomez Mendez, \$615,000, 20 Launching Rd  
5 Ferndale Avenue Realty Trust & David J Seymour Tr, Amy S Glavin, \$520,000, 5 Ferndale Ave  
Giulietta LLC, Zeljko Mitrovic, \$434,900, 14 Boston Rd  
Courtney A Lynch, Eleanor A Sapienti, \$295,000, 22 Railroad St Unit 207  
David J & Cidalia M Hosmer, Victoria L & Stephen W Fourney, \$845,000, 12 Keystone Wy  
139 Andover Street Realty Trust & Douglas M Bell Tr & Mary Patrick Bogan Tr, Amy Elizabeth Whitsett Tr/Amy Elizabeth Ferraro Tr & Amy Elizabeth Ferraro Revocable Trust, \$775,000, 139 Andover St  
Pulte Homes of New England LLC, David M & Helen W Jacobson, \$466,995, 2 Francis Dr Unit 101  
James E Kukstis, Joyce DiCicco & Robert J Farr Sr, \$182,000, 5 Colonial Dr Unit 5B-6  
Pulte Homes of New England LLC, Thomas G Clerkin, \$175,200, 2 Francis Dr Unit 404  
Beverley D Raymond, Kevin Robert & Meghan McLaughlin, \$617,000, 3 Sandal-

wood Ln  
Donald M McAnern & David G McAnern Est & Richard G McAnern & Karen A McAnern, Duke Realty Group LLC, \$450,000, 145 Hidden Rd  
David Lu Tr & Pauline B Lu Realty Trust I, LS Property LLC, \$365,000, 55-57 Stevens St  
CA Investment Trust & Yvon Cormier Tr, ERM-ADR LLC, \$1,500,000, 1 Shandel Cir Etc  
Robert G Kwon Tr & Courtney J Kwon Tr & Courtney J Kwon Revocable Trust, Sharon & Jeffrey Quinlan, \$952,000, 14 Avery Ln  
Jay & Lisa Levenson, Michael A Giacometti & Gina Vincente, \$875,000, 59 Cheever Cir  
James P & Cheryle C Joyce, Wesley F & Allison M Chilson, \$850,000, 26 Smithshire Estates  
Felicia Cappabianca & Walter J Norton, Vava Imports LIC, \$350,000, 609 Alder Wy Unit 609  
Edward T Egan, Donna M Brennan, \$235,000, 10 Maple Ave Unit 1  
Sandra Gillman Tr & Helen Edwards Trust-2019, Maycon De Souza Cordeiro & Alexandra Reid, \$220,000, 23 Summer St Unit 2  
David Shrestinian Tr & Susan A Kulungian Tr & Shrestinian Family Irrevocable Trust, Hathi & Binh Nguyen, \$550,000, 5 Mitton Cir  
Pulte Homes of New England LLC, Judith A & Joseph W Puls Jr, \$465,995, 2 Francis Dr Unit 213  
Julie & Roger White, Thomas L White, \$425,000, 138 Greenwood Rd  
Peter H & Cynthia Elias Trs & Mary Dutcher Fowler Trust, Rahul S & Arati R Naik, \$318,000, 22 Railroad St Unit 310  
Gheorghe Giurgiu & Mihaela Simona Giurgiu, Alyssa M Nihan, \$268,000, 12 Crescent Dr Unit 3

#### LAWRENCE

Daher Group Inc, Pedro Lopez & Griselda Ortega, \$329,000, 15 Hofmann Ave  
Joao C Silva/John C Silva & Carlos M Silva & Maria C Silva, Kathleen D Rupkey, \$282,750, 25 Lisa Ln  
Marianella Jimenez/Marianella Guzman/Marianela Guzman, Ary M Feliz, \$495,000, 12 Logan St  
Glenny Acevedo & Jario Nolberto, Hilario Romero Vidal & Rosa Antigua De Vidal, \$477,000, 483-485 Andover St  
Sheila E McCartney 2003 Trust & Kathleen E Camasso Tr & David A McCartney, Omar Loaiza, \$280,000, 324-326 High St  
Jean M Kozlowski, Nicholas Aalerud Tr & Chesterfield II Realty Trust, \$206,000, 9 Ferguson St  
Yahaira & Sparky M Diaz, Pedro J Batista Paulino, \$430,000, 368-370 South Broadway  
Thanh Thai & Cam To Lu, Maria C Gomez, \$467,500, 18-20 Debbie Ln  
LC Properties LLC, Luis Puello & Yanil Campana, \$305,000, 29-31 Floral St Unit 31  
Jean G & Marcelle Gagnon, Hector B Checo & Harry Checo, \$320,000, 17 Morton St  
Joseph O'Brien Tr & Maureen O'Brien Tr/Maureen Welch Tr & Edith C O'Brien Family Trust, Fatima Rodriguez, \$300,000, 40 Woodland St  
LC Properties LLC, Anderson & Bilineda Saint Louis, \$300,000, 29-31 Floral St Unit 29  
Victor & Giovanna B Geldres, Denys Alicea & Wilfredo Ramos-Torres, \$259,000, 264 Howard St  
Janet M Bennett, Prime Real Estate Investment LLC, \$250,000, 71 William St  
Niorka Mendez Almonte, Nikolay Ivan ov, \$511,000, 17-19 Winthrop Ave  
Geraldine S Desroches & Debra A Jerackas, Lizmerly Baez, \$510,000, 44 Clifton St  
Juan Diaz Vargas, Valdir L Borba, \$379,900, 9-11 Wendell St  
Louis F Cremony, Yulenny Martinez,

\$125,000, 20 Knox St Unit 35  
Julia Polanco, Jorge Veras, \$550,000, 92 Exeter St  
Manuel Joaquin Tr & Aurora Realty Trust, Jean Carlos Quiroz & Raquel Gomez, \$452,000, 112 Haverhill St  
Rubelio & Sheila Palma, Juan J Acosta & Juana I Marte, \$440,000, 517 Haverhill St  
Michael S & Anne M Obar, Hector L & Amhel Sosa & Amada Tejada, \$310,000, 17 Granville St  
Roque A & Maria C Pena, Flor Angel Aguasvivas & Isisflor Martinez, \$525,000, 131-133 Brookfield St  
German Duran & Maria V Castillo De Duran, Priscilla Diaz, \$473,000, 65 Tremont St  
Jorge Rodriguez, Carline Gervais, \$450,000, 186 Mount Vernon St  
Jose Paez, Walter Shayne Velez, \$392,000, 59 Crosby St  
They Loc T Vu, Leon & Nhi K Nguyen, \$197,000, 73 Fern St  
Robert A Norcross II Tr & Lenox Realty Trust, Fermin Family LLC, \$650,000, 22-24 Smith St  
65 Shawsheen LLC, Maria S Gonzalez & Evaristo Hernandez, \$448,000, 65 Shawsheen Rd  
Wilson Lopez-Santos, Wilmen A Lopez, \$210,000, 35 Washington St  
Daher Group Inc, Elena Del Carmen Castillo Reyes & Yancarlos Hernandez, \$590,000, 71-73 Spruce St  
Yocasta Guzman/Yocasta Romero, Pedro Pichardo, \$525,000, 20 Medford St  
Harry Real Estate LLC, Mario E Vargas, \$521,000, 95 Weare St  
Junior Anziani, Teresa Mata, \$415,000, 17 Walnut St  
Altagracia Santos & Curtis West, Rafael Vargas Tobal, \$545,000, 14-16 Kress St  
169-171 Haverhill Street Realty LLC, NB Property Investments LLC, \$1,015,000, 169-171 Haverhill St  
Carlos J Carrasco, Michael Miller, \$515,000, 497-499 Andover St  
Gloria Roque & Alejandro Regus, Katherine Moronta & Edwin Jose Difo Santos, \$466,000, 78-80 Dorchester St  
Junior DelosAngeles, Johnny Agramonte, \$435,000, 150-152 Farnham St  
Arthur J Broadhurst Tr & Abby Realty Trust, Douglas Law, \$325,000, 75-77 Osgood St  
Emmanuel Javier, Jyovani Joubert & Julio William Joubert Jr, \$189,900, 19 Bellevue St Unit 6  
Margaret M Gould, Ruben Alexander De La Cruz, \$297,500, 18 Tyler St  
467-477 Broadway Street LLC & 18-20 Broadway LLC, Iglesia DeCristo Restauracion Apostolica, \$450,000, 465 Broadway  
Joseph T Ferrigno Est & C Ryan Buckley, Darien Ramirez & Reynaldo Rodriguez, \$298,000, 153 Farnham St  
Top-Tier Investments LLC, Elena Gonzalez, \$254,000, 2 Hazel Pl  
Ysaura Rosario, Maximo Burgos & Maria A Arnarud, \$500,000, 696 Haverhill St  
Julia A Lantigua, Luis A Camilio & Nazarena Mejia Del Orbe, \$410,000, 174 Willow St  
Jose & Nelsida Torres, Sandria T Andujar & Manuel & Jeanly Lara, \$392,000, 106 Olive Ave  
Matthew J Jordan, Maxima M Mendoza, \$285,000, 28 Beaconsfield St  
Evelyn Guerrero, Tara N Foster & Jorge L Rodriguez, \$280,000, 6 West Hawley St  
Angela R Edgar & Anthony Francis Novello Est, Luis R Diaz, \$138,000, 918 Essex St  
Susan M Grande & Norma J Foss, Angel Garcia, \$280,000, 6 Silesia Ct  
Thomas A Leone & Danielle N Noble/Danielle N Capone, Luis Alsina, \$198,000, 6 Andover Ter Unit 2-3  
Nicolas Almonte & Josefina Pena De Almonte, Enmanuel D Almonte, \$500,000, 145 Franklin St



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Sue Piazza’s Book Corner

“Unintentional Immigrant: From Aspiring Surgeon to Undercover Operative”

By Jorge H. DeNapoli  
Published by: Stillwater River Publications  
© 2019 by Jorge H. DeNapoli  
Genre: Memoir  
Paperback 252 pages  
4.75 Bookmarkers  
Disclaimer: I know this author personally having been part of the same writer’s group. I am also listed in this book’s acknowledgement. However, I believe I can and have been able to provide an unbiased review.

The author came from Argentina during his country’s political upheaval, Evita Peron having died, and her husband Juan Peron, having been overthrown months earlier. Mr. DeNapoli’s intentions were to come to America, learn, and return to his homeland to practice surgery. That never happened.

I was hooked during the Prologue. And, my interest in Dr. DeNapoli’s story never waned. His easy writing style and the book’s fascinating content drove this reader on.

The memoir opens with Jorge leaving for the US and getting situated with his first hospital job – Harlem Hospital, Harlem, 1956. One can feel the fatigue, the difficulty trying to communicate in a foreign language and the naivety of good vs. bad neighborhoods as the author’s journey begins. The media’s portrayal of NY conflicted vastly with the reality of 1950’s Harlem’s.

Social commentary, travel experiences, as well as the intricacies of the immigration process and paperwork necessary to obtain his medical license to practice in this country were a real eye opener, and page turner.

One of the interesting and insightful glimpses into the societal and political climate of the mid to late 1950s was that some places forbade white folks. Another interesting historical fact was that Argentina liberated its black slaves in 1813, fifty years before Lincoln’s “Emancipation Proclamation.”

Besides being an unintentional immigrant, the author became an operative for the US government. As a doctor and frequent traveler, he had the ability to blend in with other people and cultures making him a desirable and easily disguised government operative.

There is only one issue I had with the book. I understand different cultures have different morals; I was in the military so I am familiar with how people react to different matters, but I think the subject of one’s extra marital liaisons should be kept private. But, other than that, and a few grammatical hitches, I found little I disliked with this book. One subject I would have liked to have read more about were his espionage exploits, but national security precluded sharing more than he revealed. What Dr. DeNapoli did share, replete with photos, was amazing.

This memoir is about an incredibly well lived life and its corresponding dreams. I finished this book in one sitting.

I would recommend this book.

Susan Piazza is an author, columnist, and blogger. She can be found at [susanpiazzaauthor.com](http://susanpiazzaauthor.com) Her newly released book “A Bird Call That Isn’t” can be found on Amazon at: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0829MHLRX> ♦



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# TOWN HALL MEETINGS

## Columbia Gas Class Action Settlement


Please join us at the following meetings to learn about the settlement reached in the Consolidated Class Actions against Columbia Gas

<p><b>NOV. 8, 2019</b></p> <p>6pm to 9pm Collins Center, Andover HS 100 Shawsheen Rd., Andover, MA</p>	<p><b>NOV. 9, 2019</b></p> <p>1pm to 4pm Greater Lawrence Technical High School 57 River Rd., Andover, MA</p>	<p><b>NOV. 9, 2019</b></p> <p>5pm to 8pm North Andover Middle School 495 Main St., North Andover, MA</p>
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- Hear from the Consolidated Class Action Leadership Team, the lawyers who filed the class action lawsuits and negotiated the \$143 Million settlement, about why they joined forces and how they achieved the settlement.
- Learn about your rights and options under the settlement and receive instructions about how to fill out claims forms.
- A question and answer period will follow the presentation where lawyers will answer questions from the audience.
- All are welcome at each of the three meetings.



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REAL ESTATE FROM PAGE 24

Daound Ramy & George Ramey, Joan Gomez & Dominga Dela Rosa, \$445,000, 14-16 Mason St  
Frank Serret, Genesis Baez, \$407,000, 13 Baily St  
Laird Realty Trust & Matthew Thomas Tr, Nicholas Benitez, \$400,000, 33-35 Kenneth St  
Thomas L White, Marcela Ivana Rizzo, \$322,000, 8 Mount Auburn St  
Vantroy C Nunez & Yenni G Rojas, Mario R Ortiz Cruz & Lourdes E Ortiz, \$285,000, 4 Towerhill St  
John William Baranauskas, Robert Buthman, \$240,000, 175-177 Howard St  
Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity Inc, Kamagate Allassana, \$225,000, 11-17 Mason St Unit 2  
Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity Inc, Oscar & Marisela Lopez, \$225,000, 11-17 Mason St Unit 1  
**METHUEN**  
Arthur & Sandra Lucia, Mouthy & Marceline V Saint Felix, \$505,000, 34 Sugar Pine Ln  
Janice McCarthy-Rogers Tr & Congo Family Irrevocable Trust, Tara Ann Shea & Joseph Lessard-Wray, \$415,000, 4 Ranger Rd  
Nancy Nguyen, Ana Minaya, \$405,000, 64 Union St  
Roger A Farah, Daisy Valles, \$334,900, 423 Broadway  
Oakland Realty Trust & Albert J Lambert Tr & Corinne P Lucier Tr, Greener Development Group LLC, \$225,000, 39 Oakland Ave  
John F Murphy Jr, Jose M Hernandez, \$304,000, 80 Arnold St  
James M Bucu, Laura M Naismith, \$252,000, 21 Christopher Dr Unit 56  
Ryan & Tiffany Luther, Kimberly Peloquin, \$405,000, 75 North St  
Yow Barrios & Rosalie Liriano, Michael J Moore & Janine S Heck, \$380,000, 15 Jane Rd  
Joseph Barbagallo LLC, Gabriel Maldonado, \$332,000, 202 Pleasant Valley St  
Katelyn Bizeur & Jennifer Gagnon & Katherine A Gagnon Est, Mark Moreno & Gabriel Moreno, \$292,000, 4-6 Scherig Cir Unit 6  
David R & Sarah Q Yoshida, Donna Bishop, \$535,000, 46 Hopkins Cir Unit 32  
Louise M Malgeri, Rafael E Disla & Emelinda Del Carmen Acevedo Disla, \$475,000, 58-60 Milk St  
Christopher J McFeely, Aubery Dortch, \$365,000, 1-3 River Pl  
Merrimack Valley Builders Inc, Maura Magaly Bicalho & Eder Ferreira Guimaraes, \$329,000, 50 Causeway St  
Grant S & Tracy A Puzniak, Natalie Ivette Isaac & Rocky Melvin Isaac Medina, \$320,000, 14 Strongwater Rd  
Victor J & Amy M Rodriguez, Jean & Marcelle Gagnon, \$207,500, 395 Merrimack St Unit 28  
Jhensee Gomez, Alida A Peguero-Medina & Melgin Alcantara-Segura, \$348,000, 70 Elmwood Rd  
Sarah R Seminara, Salvatore Seminara & Frank Seminara, \$110,000, 640 Prospect St  
Gregory M & Holly Scott, Erika Jane Damato & Alexander Joseph Piekos,

\$400,000, 66 Newbury Ave  
Robert Jason Howell & Christine McLaughlin Howell, Daniel Pass, \$365,000, 490 Lowell St  
Vanessa Canales/Vanessa & Juan Carlos Ortiz, Juslene Mathador, \$336,999, 27 Maplewood Ave  
Gerard F & Julie A Patterson, Alberto & Yenipher Mendez, \$335,000, 4 Newton Ave  
Joseph S & Amale S Najjar, James P & Gabriela Falzone, \$634,000, 6 Morgan Dr  
David A Danieli, Melvin F Taveras & Katherine Lopez Arias, \$450,000, 1091 Riverside Dr  
Robert D Levy & Mark J McMurray & Michael J Torname, Blas & Roselia Santos, \$449,000, 24-26 Peaslee Ter  
Adam & Shannon Stahl, Steven A & Kathryn M Cote Trs & Steven A Cote Revocable Trust, \$322,000, 3 Strongwater Rd  
MTGLQ Investors LP, Mercedes Cedano Gil, \$253,000, 16 Pinewood Rd  
Joseph Cavallaro, Raquel Gonzalez, \$250,000, 50 Christopher Dr Unit 77  
Pelham Place LLC, 2800 Lafayette Road LLC, \$11,650,000, 134-136-138 Pelham St  
Janet M Hamel, Leidy Morrobel, \$500,000, 264 Pelham St  
Linda M Guerrette Tr & L M Guerrette Family Trust, Anthony A & Lucilina R Brown, \$420,000, 213 Oak St  
James & Gabriella Falzone, Vy Le & Hoa Nguyen, \$399,900, 75 Anderson Dr  
Roque F Hernandez, Manaf Elkaoukabi, \$391,000, 27 Chase St  
Ashley A Sarsfield & Gregory Levesque, Yariel Rivera, \$360,000, 29 Houston Ave  
Hajara Abdul-Rahman Bello, Michael Deglaoui & Eli & Eleanor Deglaoui, \$335,000, 15 Hampshire Rd Unit 1A  
Kristen & Dana M Carey, Juan Diaz Vargas & Miriam A Joran, \$330,000, 34 Merrimack St  
2 Heather Drive Realty Trust & James T Charewicz Tr & Beatrice J Charewicz Tr, James Minicucci, \$330,000, 2 Heather Dr Unit 7  
William H McCaffrey, Linda M Guerrette Tr & LM Guerrette Family Trust, \$309,900, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 9-103  
173 Broadway LLC, 75-77 Springfield Street LLC, \$1,200,000, 171-175 Broadway  
Guillermo A Molina Jr & Johnny E Rivas, Roamn T Davies, \$382,000, 50 Green St  
Dolores Davis Tr & Ouellette Irrevocable Trust & Eva M Ouellette, Kristin Binette, \$350,000, 52 Venice Rd  
Michael Forensi/Michael Fornesi, Crystal & Artur Miranda, \$250,000, 20 Washington St Unit 12  
Susan Giampa, Marvin Cutler, \$135,000, 23B Pilgrim Cir  
Christine A Meisner Tr/Christine A Markey Tr & Dario Realty Trust, Diamonds To Dogs LLC, \$725,000, 204 Tyler St  
Hitesh R & Sonal H Khambhati, Brian J & Arcilia Boyson, \$515,000, 41 Greengside Wy  
Shawn & Stacey Tardif, Francisco Caceres Parra & Clara Caceres, \$327,000, 25 Miller St  
Santa Jaime, Yatin Patel, \$138,000, 30 Danbury Dr Unit 18  
Hazel P Williams & Hazel Robinson, Laura

Olenga Seke & Michaux Seke Dialundua, \$400,000, 38 Ridge Rd  
Francesco S Finocchiario Tr & 45-100 Realty Trust, Ursine 2011 LLC, \$200,000, 45 Christopher Dr Unit 100  
Dominga A San Pablo/Dominga A SanPablo & Jorge M Medina & Katherine M Medina & Jatnna M Medina, Neisa Ortega-Ortega, \$195,000, 3 Tenney St  
Emma Joaquin & Amy Joaquin & Santiago Oleaga, Lunique & Bernadette Osirus, \$500,000, 17-19 Olive St  
Beverly A Winn Tr/Beverly M Winn Tr & B A Winn Realty Trust, Genesis N Pena & Andrea Jeanette Batista, \$350K, 42 Elmore St  
Homes At Great Oaks LLC, Ana E Flores, \$549,900, 4 Tucker Ter  
LBR Lynbrook Realty LLC, Michael & Susan LaBonte, \$520,000, 6 Lynbrook Rd  
Azadkumar C Patel, Kevin S Kingdara, \$400,000, 56 Atkinson St  
Robert A & Denise M Sirois, Hieu H Nguyen & Yen Truong, \$397,000, 36 Shirley Ave  
Robert P & Lynn Barry, Antonio C & Catherine Gomez, \$360,000, 15 Varniai St  
Stephanie L Letourneau, Rocco Di Bello, \$349,000, 22 Capitol St  
Brian & Monica McGinnis, Timothy Joseph & Meagan Elizabeth Coco, \$346,000, 142 Elm St  
Michael F Cartledge, Mimoun Zatim, \$123,700, 71 Mystic St Unit 4  
Rafic Tony Saadi, Jose A Delacruz & Dayrelys R Reynoso, \$450,000, 231 Forest St  
2 Pine Grove Avenue Realty Trust & Kathleen M DiMauro Tr, Ryan Curtin, \$432,500, 2 Pine Grove Ave  
Judith J Jaquez, Eliodoro Perez, \$425,000, 12-14 Curtis St  
William H Barr, Stephen D McDougall, \$368,000, 284 Pelham St  
Steven Soto & Leah Solimine, Daniel & Mimos Meritil, \$345,000, 118 Pleasant St  
Thomas H Borysek Declaration of Trust Dated December 11, 1991 & Thomas H Borysek Tr & Thomas H Borysek Declaration of Trust Dated May 2, 2017, Francis Rojas, \$221,630, 50 Larchwood Rd  
Frances C & Daniel J Marino, Chun-Wen Paul Huang & Shiu-Kuei Joyce Cheng, \$360,000, 39 Heather Dr Unit 49  
Sarah & Christopher Gauvin, Carlos O Robles Velazquez & Irayelitza Soto Ponce, \$335,000, 111 Lowell St  
Emily Russo & Jean Y Caze, Andrew Thomas & Ashley Maria Hinton, \$310,000, 27 Webb St  
Kyle Flanigan, Nara Bernard Alicea, \$205,000, 95 Pelham St Unit 3  
Deborah Norcott, Scionti Realty Trust & Joseph Scionti Tr, \$65,000, 69 Pine St Unit D  
James R Sheppard, Joseph & Susan Scionti Trs & Scionti Realty Trust, \$65,000, 60 Pine St Unit M  
Toll MA IV-LLC, Richard & Araxie Vann, \$680,172, 53 Pine Tree Tr Unit 83  
John R Gordon, Kareem A Whitely, \$545,000, 137 Old Ferry Rd  
Russell D & Judith Florenz, Francisco & Christine Marte, \$328,720, 106 Pitman St  
Diana & Samer M Geha, Maria S Roque, \$320,000, 95 Birchwood Rd  
Ellen Gadowski & Christine M Holden Est, Daniela A Kraus, \$305,000, 15 Durrell St  
RJP Constructio & Development Inc, Ellen M Thibault, \$200,000, 15 Sunny Ave  
Carriage Homes LLC, Ann L Kucharski Tr & Ann L Kucharski Revocable Trust, \$579,900, 15 Country Club Cir Unit 82  
Wendy R Olinsky, Umaru Sebanakita & Aisha Nakimuli, \$525,000, 40 Adams Ave  
Jorge Nunez Lopez, Jose M & Maria Luna, \$325,000, 47 Railroad St  
America Pelham LLC, Pelham Real Estate Holdings LLC, \$300,000, 192 Pelham St  
**NORTH ANDOVER**  
John P & Joan C Thompson, Joseph B & Lori A Donahue, \$285,000, 148 Main St Unit B-534  
Robert & Rebecca Berberian, Francesco & Jillene Foder, \$955,000, 130 Nutmeg Ln  
Nancy M MacMillan Tr & Francis P MacMillan Jr & Nancy M MacMillan Revocable Trust, Lee Stouch, \$660K, 75 Woodcrest Dr  
Paul A Lamm, Cameron N & Julianne L Pramas, \$400,000, 755 Johnson St  
Sharon Yates, Shaoqing Yang & Suining Huang, \$190,000, 1 Fernview Ave Unit 5

Edward H & Judith A Silva, Eitan Yisrael Goldberg & Michelle Diane Goldberg, \$735,000, 125 Sawmill Rd  
Payne Properties LLC, Sean & Mandi L Maloney, \$340,000, 80 Prospect St  
Susan S Kelly/Susan Weeder-Kelly & Daniel Weeder Jr/Daniel Weeder, Timothy & Kristen Stonecipher, \$670,000, 48 Windsor Ln  
John C Pressman Revocable Trust & Sylvie Pressman Tr & Sylvie Pressman Revocable Trust, Eric R & Linda L Saulnier, \$650,000, 245 Osgood St  
John F Tierney Tr & Tierney 2015 Trust, Gregory & Holly Scott, \$590,000, 6 Penni Ln  
Sergey Cherepko & Aksana Sorokina, Kevin & Buntha Hazell, \$560,000, 30 Great Oak St  
Susan M Green, Jian Lin & Jian Hua Ren, \$525,000, 54 Brightwood Ave  
SHP IV North Andover LLC, B H Brightview North Andover LLC, \$33,499,000, 1275 Turnpike St  
George J Puddister, Leah Zachon, \$258,000, 36 Village Green Dr Unit 78  
Wayne J Crowe, Michael DaSilva Tr & DaSilva Turnpike Realty Trust, \$60,375, 867 Turnpike St Unit 116  
JMF Realty LLC, Katie Brennan Bock, \$439,000, 27 Bradford St  
PH Main St LLC, 82-88 Main Street LLC, \$1,060,000, 82-88 Main St  
Edward M & Marie G Rayner, Katherine Prince, \$479,500, 74 Elmcrest Rd  
Cleveland Street LLC, Michael N Scarfo & Anthony Scarfo, \$395,000, 22 Cleveland St Unit 22  
Shirley E Fehrenbach, John Tourtillott, \$180,000, 41 Farrwood Ave Unit 8  
Steven B DiMartino, Gina E Bressler, \$170,000, 3 Walker Rd Unit 10  
Christian Rizzo & Kaoutar El Haloui Rizzo, Casey A Chwiecko, \$330,000, 14 Stonington St Unit 14  
Yadwender Singh Dhillon, Carmela DeNardo, \$485,000, 60 Inglewood St  
Danielle Beaulieu, Steven DiMartino & Emma Monaghan, \$325,000, 23 Elmwood St  
Kyle T Lewis & Brittney Whitcomb Lewis/Brittney Whitcomb, Dora M DiStefano, \$311,000, 3 Harvest Dr Unit 111  
Elizabeth A Poirier Est & Mary Lee Murray, Megan A Errgong-Weider, \$305,000, 148 Main St Unit A-414  
RDM Kelsey LLC, Stefano & Gabrielle Sestito, \$780,000, 1217 Salem St  
Rohm & Haas Electronic Materials LLC, ADG 60 Willow North Andover LLC, \$1,900,000, 60 Willow St  
James B Hart & Jennifer H Collins, CMTF LP, \$1,244,000, Salem St  
Kalu O Ukoh & Asabe W Poloma, Christopher W & Colette Reaich, \$600,000, 259 Granville Ln  
Paul S & Linda Kyomitmaitee, Michael W Phelps Jr & Despina Phelps, \$594,000, 340 Forest St  
Peter M Hunt Tr & Alfred L Gardiner Revocable Living Trust, Hunter Ripsom Gardiner, \$475,000, 79 Moody St  
H Manning Curtis Tr & HMC Realty Trust, 565 Turnpike St Suite 76A Holding LLC, \$81,000, 565 Turnpike St Unit 76A  
Timothy A Giard Tr & TAG Realty Trust, James S Pierro Sr & Joanne M Pierro, \$280,000, 148 Main St Unit F-441  
Frank E & Ruth A Bartashy, Avinash Muttamsetti, \$217,000, 30 Bunkerhill St Unit 30  
Brindis LLC, Oceanic Research Group Inc, \$195,000, 855 Turnpike St Unit 237-239  
Turnpike Realty Trust & Joan I Gitlin Tr, First Choice Properties LLC, \$135,000, 575 Turnpike St Unit 25  
Christoph & Smitha Bauckhage, Donato & Natasha H Dandreo, \$643,000, 263 Raleigh Tavern Ln  
Zaglakas Living Trust & Ellen M Zaglakas Tr, Kaylee Danielle Lambrinos & Jeremy Giard, \$421,000, 15 Columbia Rd  
James D Cribbins Jr & Kate Cribbins, Frederick & Susan Judge, \$340,000, 1 Harvest Dr Unit 304  
Lillian Nowak Boyle Tr & Lillian Nowak Boyle Revocable Trust-2013, N6 Properties LIC, \$235,000, 148 Main St Unit S-227  
Richard P Fields Jr & Maureen A Johnston, Hung Tran, \$665,000, 450 Marbleridge Rd  
Scott P & Tara Diamond, Luisa I & Allen J Artone, \$389,900, 35 Belmont St



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